

THE TIMES Tomorrow Water... How to paddle your own canoe... The pleasure of a Norwegian coastal cruise...

Healey 'to go' if left sweeps board in leadership election

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter Mr Denis Healey, Labour's deputy leader, will not stand for election to the Shadow Cabinet this autumn if the electoral college chooses a Neil Kinnock-Michael Meacher combination for its leadership...

Sterling crashes to \$1.4875

The pound crashed 1.9 cents against the dollar to \$1.4875, the first time it has been below \$1.50 since April...

Health cuts deadline

Health authorities have six weeks to suggest how to cut staff by between 0.75 and 1 per cent by March...

Tanks in Chad

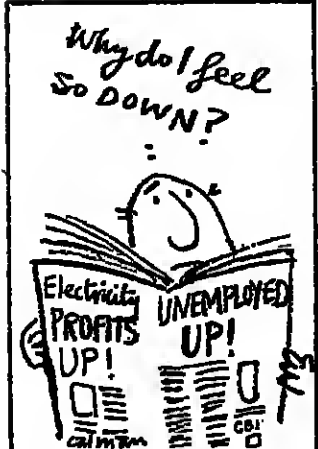
Columns of Soviet-made T62 and T72 tanks have been seen 300 miles west of the beleaguered Chad town of Faya-Largeau...

Cargo unloaded

The Aleksandr Ulyanov, the Soviet ship the US says was carrying arms to Nicaragua, began unloading at the port of Corinto yesterday...

Ship jobs safe

A £70m order won by Harland and Wolff's Belfast yards for four cargo ships will safeguard more than 5,000 jobs there and 7,500 in England and Scotland...



Craxi's choice

Signor Bettino Craxi has become Italy's first Socialist Prime Minister, leading a five-party coalition in the forty-fourth post war Government...

Car sales up

Car sales in Britain are heading for a record year. They were 17.3 per cent higher in the first seven months of this year than last...

Ovett blow

Sveve Ovett will not run in the 800 metres at the world championship in Helsinki. His application was received too late...

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Letters: On South Bank concert halls, from Mr Tony Banks; Nicaragua, from Mr Cranley Onslow, MP; Gibraltar dockyard, from Mr M B Martin...

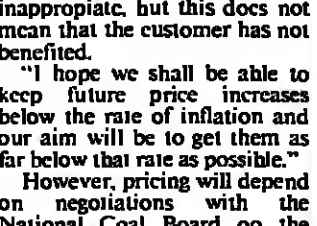
Table with 2 columns: Name and Page number. Includes Home News, Overseas, Arts, Business, Chess, Crossword, Diary, Law Report, Letters, Obituary, PremBonds, Science, Sport, TV & Radio, Universities, Weather, Wills.

Electricity rebate ruled out despite big profits

The electricity industry has announced profits of £863m - £332m after the payment of loan interest - but has ruled out making a rebate to its customers...

Thatcher could be out of hospital by weekend

The Prime Minister rested yesterday after the operation on her damaged right eye which her surgeon pronounced to be a total success...



Bedside men: Mr Mark Thatcher (left) and Mr Richard Packard, surgeon, at the hospital yesterday.

Jobless total rises to 3.23 million

Nearly 120,000 people, two thirds of them school-leavers, joined the dole queues last month to bring the official jobless tally to 3,231,720 - almost one in seven of the workforce...

Tamils shot by soldiers, says leader

The Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) has alleged that nearly 40 people - students, university lecturers and housewives - were shot by army personnel in the streets and in their homes in the Jaffna area of Sri Lanka during communal violence...

Prince will play polo for Scots

Scotland is to have the Prince of Wales representing it against an English Select team in the Polo Home International at Scoon Palace, near Perth, on Sunday September 4...

Supergrass trial

Four of the Provisional IRA's leading members in Belfast who were informed against by Mr Christopher Black were jailed for life at Belfast Crown Court yesterday for their parts in the murders of a part-time Ulster Defence Regiment soldier and a deputy prison governor...

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The Queen Mother, who was 83 yesterday, waves from the balcony of Clarence House to the crowd below. Report and more photographs, back page.

Brittan may get tough on killers

By Our Political Reporter Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is expected to support the extension of minimum 20-year jail sentences for the murder of policemen to cover other categories...

Such an extension would not require legislation, because the decision is within the Home Secretary's discretion. He is likely to outline his intentions at the Conservative Party Conference in October...

Conservative MPs, disappointed by the overwhelming vote of the Commons last month against the death penalty, are now campaigning for much tougher sentences, and some have been urging the end of all possibility of parole for many categories of murderer.

That has been reflected in the resolutions sent to Conservative Central Office from local party associations for the annual conference. Up to 100 have been received on law and order.

Sources close to the Home Secretary expect Mr Brittan to resist demands for the ending of parole for certain types of murderers.

But he is expected to build on a statement made in the Commons debate weeks ago referring to the fact that none of the 16 adults convicted of murdering policemen since 1965 had been released from prison, and that most of them had been subject to recommendations from the trial judge that they should serve a minimum sentence ranging from 15 to 30 years.

He said then: "I shall ensure that cases where no minimum recommendation has been made are treated in substantially the same way as those where such a recommendation was made. The expectation must be that all such murderers serve at least 20 years and that some may never be released."

Some of the conference motions demand the return of the death penalty, despite the decisive rejection by the Commons. To meet the demands of some Tory MPs, who tabled a more wide-ranging Commons motion would require legislation. They urged that the sentence for murder of a police officer or prison officer, for murder committed in the course of terrorism, in the course of theft or by explosion or shooting, and for "other heinous categories of murder" should be for the convicted person's whole life.

But Mr Brittan, like home secretaries before him, would be firmly opposed to such a proposal. Capital punishment for the murder of a prison officer in the course of his duty was rejected in the Commons last month by 348 votes to 252, a majority of 96 votes, the smallest for any category apart from murder of a police officer, which was rejected by 81 votes.

Advertisement for 'Palace on Wheels' train. Text: 'India's unique holiday concept. The Palace on Wheels, brings back to life the vintage splendours of the age of Maharajas, Viceroys and Governors-General who thought had gone forever. DON'T MISS THIS TRAIN AGAIN!' Includes details about the train, itinerary, and contact information.



# £70m order for four ships gives Belfast a jobs boost

A vital £70m "breathing space" order for four refrigerated meat and fruit carriers placed with Harland and Wolff, the Belfast shipbuilders, by the London-based Blue Star Line will greatly benefit companies in Britain's areas of high unemployment, Mr John Parker, the yard's new chief executive, said yesterday.

He said that the order, won in the face of fierce competition from British shipbuilders and from yards in Germany, Scandinavia and Japan was a big boost for the marine equipment industry. It would help to secure about 7,500 jobs in mainland Britain, apart from those of his much-reduced workforce of 5,300, a further 200 of whom are soon to be made redundant.

"We sign away cheques for more than half of almost every ship we build," Mr Parker said, disclosing that the deal would be worth about £12m to companies in north-east England, £5m to suppliers around Clydeside, and varying amounts to other companies around London, Bristol, Southampton, South Yorkshire and Merseyside.

British Steel will benefit as the sole supplier of nearly 10,000 tonnes of steel required for the four vessels, which will be built simultaneously. The first is due for delivery in 17 months' time, with the rest following during the first nine months of 1985.

"We believe this is a realistic delivery programme which we can achieve," Mr Parker said.

His deputy in the Government-owned company, Mr Douglas Cooper, said there were penalty clauses in the contract but they were "not so penal" as some that had been accepted in recent years.

Some of Blue Star's 20 present vessels are growing old and, although he denied reports that there was an option in the contract for a further two ships, Mr Parker expressed the belief that his company now held a good position to meet any future Blue Star fleet requirements.

The new ships will be far smaller but more complex than the big tankers in the past 12 years. They are being bought by a consortium of London financial institutions and will be leased to Blue Star for 15 years. They will be manned by crews of only 21 compared with the 31 to 25 usual in British merchant vessels and will be about 30 per cent more economical in fuel use.

Mr Parker said that the contract would give the shipyard some measure of employment stability until better times. What was not disclosed was the extent to which the Government will subsidize the deal under its shipbuilding intervention fund.

In north Staffordshire yesterday it was announced that 80 jobs are to go by early next year, including 30 nursing sisters. The district will have £700,000 less to spend next year.

The new cuts could mean the North-west Thames region losing about 40 doctors and nearly 1,000 other staff. As a London regional authority North-west Thames is facing potential staffing cuts of between 1.7 and 1.9 per cent, because the Resources Allocation Working Party has classed it as an over-provided region.

However, Wessex, as a gaining authority under the working party formula, could end up employing more staff. But the region believes the Government wants a full 1 per cent cut on all health authorities, which would mean a loss of 59 jobs and endanger development plans.

Both regions have agreed to meet from their own resources half the new cash limits imposed after the statement by



Yet ANOTHER dinosaur

## Deadline on cuts for health authorities

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The Government has given health authorities until the middle of September to come up with ideas for cutting health service staff by between 0.75 per cent and 1 per cent by next March.

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Continued from page 1

risen and service industry employment was increasing, he said on BBC radio's *World at One* programme.

Mr Lawson added that while there were very clear signs of recovery there was concern over where new jobs were to come from. He hoped the study would be ready for discussion with unions and employers by winter. The Government would produce a thorough paper and come up with answers which would both help and show there was hope, he said.

The Employment Department said yesterday that unemployment over the past six months has been rising at the rate of about 21,000 a month compared with 28,000 in the previous six months, and about 100,000 a month in the depths of recession two and a half years ago.

The Confederation of British Industry said earlier this week that its latest survey suggested that manufacturing industry was now shedding jobs more slowly.

At the same time employment in the services sector, which accounts for two thirds of all the jobs in Britain, has begun to rise.

Moreover, job vacancies have risen sharply by more than 40 per cent over the past year, and now stand at a three-year high.

## Unions dig in for fight over closures

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

British Rail and unions dug in yesterday for battle over the closure of three railway workshops with the loss of 3,000 jobs.

A new alliance to fight the plan, which will include more than 20 unions, said that strikes and occupations were inevitable. A British Railway executive declared, however, that even a national stoppage would not change the decision.

Meanwhile the British Rail board yesterday considered a new corporate plan which is expected to cause a further 7,000 redundancies throughout the rail system on top of the 13,000 jobs already due to disappear.

Representatives of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and other industrial and rail unions pledged their support yesterday to any employees "backing" work transferred from the axed plants.

Mr Edmund Scrivens, chairman of the rail shopmen's

national council, said: "If any action is taken against any member - like disciplinary action - we will support them 100 per cent in any way they want." Strikes could start as soon as men were disciplined, he said.

Mr James Urquhart, head of British Rail's engineering section, said the decision to close the works at Shildon, Co Durham, with the loss of 1,500 jobs, and those at Temple Mills, east London, and at Bolton was final.

There had been negotiations with the unions but their plan to save money was inadequate. Shildon has got to close because the work has gone," he added.

## MP in hospital

Mr John Blackburn, aged 49, Conservative MP for Dudley, West, has been taken to hospital after suffering a heart attack.

## Alliance campaigns to win the activists

By John Winder

A campaign to win political activists to the Liberal-SDP Alliance so that it can replace Labour as the main progressive party in politics will be launched at a fringe meeting at the SDP conference in Salford on September 13.

The campaign is being jointly organized by radicals in both parties concerned that their cause should not be swamped by the next few months about the party's constitution.

Mr Michael Meadowcroft, Liberal MP for Leeds West, is one of those most concerned that his party's assembly should not become obsessed with what he calls "mechanistic" changes to the detriment of political changes. "If we are not careful we shall all have a title and a job and none of us will know why we are doing it," he said last night.

Mr Meadowcroft is addressing a fringe meeting at the Liberal Assembly of Harrogate organized by the left-wing Labour weekly *Tribune*.

He will also be joint host at a meeting in Leeds of Liberal party radicals on the Sunday before the assembly that meeting will discuss the strategy debate that effectively opens up Harrogate the next day.

The Liberal radicals believe that the future of the party and of the Alliance lies not only with the community politics that have brought the Liberal Party so far in the past 13 years but also in winning the support of natural allies among the pressure groups and single-issue movements that abound in political life.

## FT talks on return to work

By Paul Rontledge, Labour Editor

The management of the *Financial Times*, leaders of the National Graphical Association will meet today to negotiate a return-to-work formula aimed at getting the newspaper back on sale next Tuesday.

Mr Alan Hare, the FT newspaper's chairman, said yesterday that this was the earliest possible date for republication. The union agreed on Wednesday to end its nine-week strike by machine room workers.

Work is expected to restart at Brackley House, the newspaper's publishing centre in Cannon Street, London, on Sunday in preparation for the resumption of circulation a dispute that has cost the company an estimated £10m.

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Continued from page 1

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Sir Walter Marshall, chairman of the CEBG, said: "The price of electricity is a significant factor in determining the competitiveness of British industry. But we cannot hold down the price on our own. It cannot stress too much our dependence on the price of coal."

## Snuff firms aim for youth sales

By Nicholas Timmins

The tobacco industry, faced with declining cigarette sales, is promoting snuff-taking, once largely the preserve of the elderly and the eccentric, as an exciting habit for the young.

J and H Wilson, a subsidiary of Imperial Tobacco, which, with other tobacco companies, has seen 10 million adults give up smoking, has launched a £20,000 campaign with advertisements in *Melody Maker*, *New Musical Express*, *Tatler*, *Cosmopolitan*, and student and other magazines.

The advertisements ask if readers have experienced the "snuff sensation" and add: "Wow! it's heady stuff. Well here's your chance to delight in the sensual pleasure of snuffing for free."

Those replying receive a free sample and guidance on how to snuff the finely ground tobacco.

The advertisements have brought protests from the health Education Council and Action on Smoking and Health (ASH), which protested against the age ranges to which the advertisements are directed.

Mr David Simpson, of Ash, said snuff could rapidly produce high levels of nicotine in the blood.

## Protest at EEC plan to end butter subsidy

By Bert Lodge

The bishop responsible for education in the Roman Catholic diocese of Westminster has been relieved of his responsibility and the commission he headed disbanded.

This follows a confidential report of a nine month investigation by the Grubb Institute, specialists in management research, in the report chief education officers of local authorities in the diocese allege inefficiency, procrastination and indifference on the part of the Westminster Education Commission, the overseeing body for more than 200 schools.

Educations officials complained that the commission had not responded to invitations to join in talks on new policies such as selection of pupils and post-16 provision. The officials also complained of difficulty in getting agreements about such matters as reorganization.

A spokesman for Bishop David Konstant, chairman of the commission, said he had been one of the initiators of the inquiry. He had frequently complained that his other responsibility as an area bishop for central London made it impossible for him to do both jobs satisfactorily.

Ralph Brown, a vicar general, will be in charge of education in the diocese while a new structure is being worked out. Brown was responsible for organizing the Pope's visit to Britain last year.

## Bowlers locked out in rent row

By Bert Lodge

The 90 bowlers of the St Martin's Club in Hereford have been locked out of their green and pavilion in a dispute over the rent.

When a new landlord took over 18 months ago at the Greyhound Dog public house next door he increased the green rent from £25 a year to £420 and is now asking £1,200. The bowlers say they cannot afford to pay.

## Sit-in fears blamed for plant move

The directors of a South Wales factory whose workers returned from holiday to discover that the machinery had been transferred to Nottingham said yesterday that they feared an employees' occupation (Tim Jones writes).

The equipment was moved from Nava (Jersey) Knit PLC, Ystrad Mynach, mid-Wales, to the factory of V E Saxby.

The Nova directors denied yesterday that the Ystrad Mynach plant would close completely. It could stay open if agreement on reduced manning levels was reached with the unions. The original plans to discuss the move had been shelved because of rumours that industrial action would take place, a statement said. A repetition of industrial action which affected the factory in 1976 would have damaged Nova Knit and Saxby, it said.

## An island 'cry for justice'

The old Channel Islands cry for justice, the clamour de haro, was raised in the Royal Court building, Guernsey, yesterday by a veterinary surgeon, Mr Maurice Kirk, who claimed that a clinic he shared had been sold in May without his knowledge.

The cry, which dates from before the Norman Conquest, has the force of law in the Channel Islands where there is an alleged infringement of property rights. The complainant then has a year to go to court.

## Graffiti man defended

A Birmingham industrial tribunal has told Mr Michael West, production director of FGE (Aston), that he acted unfairly in dismissing Mr Michael Leaver aged 33, of Handsworth, for allegedly scrawling insulting graffiti about a factory security guard on a lavatory wall.

The tribunal chairman, Mr Bernard Owen, said: "The offence was sufficient to justify a severe lecture and a final warning, but not dismissal." The tribunal, however, reduced Mr Leaver's award by 60 per cent, to £361.

## Tory MP sues Liberal for libel

Sir Frederic Bennett, Conservative MP for Torbay, has issued a libel writ against his Liberal Alliance challenger at the general election, Mr Michael Mitchell, a teacher.

Sir Frederic, a barrister, said he had failed to obtain an apology and retraction.

The writ includes references made by Mr Mitchell to Sir Frederic's parliamentary voting record in the session before the general election. The constituency Liberal Party said: "We are taking legal advice."

## Oxford women

The number of women at Oxford University rose by 207 to 4,332 in the academic year just finished and the number of men dropped by 198 to 7,990, according to the Oxford University Gazette.

## Crossing crash

Two people escaped with minor injuries yesterday when their car was in collision with a train on a level crossing at Fuzes Platt, near Maidenhead, Berkshire.

## Suspected typhoid case in Liverpool

A married woman, aged 31, is being detained in a Liverpool hospital with suspected typhoid fever.

She was admitted to Fazakerley Hospital on Tuesday after returning from the Greek island of Kos. A hospital spokesman said that the woman, from Formby, Merseyside, had not stayed at the Ramira Beach Hotel where 12 other holiday-makers who have contracted the disease were staying.

The rush by holidaymakers for typhoid vaccinations has left the whole of Kent without supplies.

Kos is still free from any outbreak of typhoid fever, although the search for the source of infection that affected British, Dutch and Scandinavian tourists there is continuing (our Athens Correspondent writes).

Mr Pantelis Diakogorgiou, the chief medical officer for the Dodecanese islands, said yesterday that he had received reports from all the doctors in Kos certifying that there had been no cases of gastro-intestinal infection anywhere on the island in June or July.

In Athens Miss Theodora Stafanou, the Director of Public Health, said that it was vital to retrace the movements of the infected tourists during their stay on Kos, to detect any common ground that might help the authorities track down the source.

"It appears certain that they must have come in contact with the source of infection in the first ten days of July," she said.

## £7,000m of by-passes needed now

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

Britain needs to spend more than £7,000m - more than five times the total road budget for central and local government - on urgently needed by-passes, the Civic Trust said yesterday.

Without such action, heavy lorry traffic through towns and villages, which is expected to grow 60 per cent by the end of the century, will become "socially unacceptable", according to a new trust study, *By-passes and the Juggernaut*.

The study, which defines a juggernaut as a vehicle of 32 tons and over, finds that of the 1,200 worst affected towns and villages fewer than a third have by-passes and under a quarter are programmed to be given them.

Some have been waiting 30 years because of lack of funds or suitable routes, meanwhile their traffic worsened.

The study seems to mark a shift in attitude of the Civic Trust, which has fought the heavy lorry for 25 years, but now seems concerned to cope with them.

Mr Michael Hardy, county surveyor for Hertfordshire and former president of the County Surveyors Society, who helped to prepare the report, said at a London press conference yesterday: "The fundamental importance of the heavy lorry is recognized."

"All future planning must be on the lines of substantial use of lorries."

The report strongly criticizes successive governments for failing to provide by-passes which, although they are not a panacea, provide a "dramatic improvement", Lord Ezra, the chairman of the trust, says.

Road proposals are particularly vulnerable to government spending cuts, the trust says, and while by-passes may stay on the list of proposals, the time scale is elastic. No by-pass is sacrosanct, however important.

Recent government claims that the future emphasis of the road programme will be on by-passes are not borne out by the trust says.

While the government claims that all historic towns will have by-passes when the

## Police 'accused by rape victims'

Allegations that objections by Scottish police forces have delayed publication of a controversial report into the handling of rape cases were rejected by the Scottish Office yesterday.

Plans to publish part one of the report, which has taken three years to prepare, concerning police investigation of sexual assault cases have been brought forward, a Scottish Office spokesman said. The sections on court stages are not due for publication until next year.

He said: "Normal considerations are taking place to confirm the accuracy of the various references and arrangements are being made for this first section to be published as soon as possible."

The report, which is the first official investigation into the handling of inquiries into sexual offences in Scotland, is believed to be highly critical of the police.

According to "leaks" in the Scottish press, 45 per cent of rape and sexual assault cases never get beyond the police stage; only 15 per cent of cases result in convictions; women found the police interviewing practices the most stressful part of their ordeal; detectives interviewing techniques were described by some women as "cheeky, abusive and bullying"; many women claimed they were treated "like dirt" or "badgered like a criminal".

It is claimed that the report reveals that the police believe aggressive questioning is necessary to sift out false charges.

It is believed that the police are highly critical of the report, which is to form the basis of police guidelines on handling sex assault cases.

Lothian and Borders Police said: "Our comments about the draft report stated that it contained certain inaccuracies which we believe should be corrected."

Strathclyde Police referred all inquiries to the Scottish Office. There a spokesman said that he could not comment on press reports, but added that the report in its final form would be published shortly, and without any change in its substance.

## Council may sell shopping centre to clear debt

Bristol council is considering disposing of a big asset to wipe out its £50m debt on the Royal Portbury Docks which were officially opened by the Queen six years ago.

At present, the debt burden on the docks is costing the council £6.5m a year in interest charges. Repayment of the debt would mean a reduction of 5p in the pound in ratepayers' bills.

Approaches have been made to the Conservative council to buy out the city's interest in the Broadmeads shopping centre which was developed during the late 1950s. It is understood discussions are being held between the council and a firm of estate agents, J. P. Sturge, which is putting together a consortium of institutional investors.

No asking price has been placed on the shopping centre but it is believed investors would be willing to pay as much as £30m. Under a complicated deal that figure could provide a return of around 3.5 per cent for investors.

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## Pilots fail to give cause of helicopter crash

By Rupert Morris

Neither of the two pilots of the British Airways helicopter which crashed three weeks ago off the Isles of Scilly killing 20 people could identify any technical or mechanical malfunction, it was officially disclosed yesterday.

A special bulletin of the Department of Transport's Accident Investigation Branch records that the commander of the Kikorsky S-61 helicopter had descended to 250ft as indicated on the radio altimeter, which is the minimum permitted height to see the sea.

The sea was then visible but general visibility was so poor that at that height he could not see the horizon, or any land, although he was only two nautical miles from St Mary's.

The commander told his copilot that he was reducing speed from about 110 knots to 90 knots in preparation for landing. A short while later the helicopter hit the sea "in an approximately level attitude and whilst on a steady heading".

The impact ripped open the bottom of the fuselage and removed the sponsons containing emergency flotation gear. After three successive impacts with the sea, which was calm at the time, the helicopter rolled over and sank, the bulletin states. There were six survivors.

The bulletin says: "Neither pilot could subsequently account for this event in terms of a mechanical or technical malfunction on the part of the helicopter, which at the time appears to have been flying quite normally."

Captain Dominic Lawlor, aged 37, who was flying the helicopter, and Captain Neil Charlton, aged 30, his copilot, have been suspended from flying duties until the full investigation is complete, which is normal procedure in accidents of this kind, the Civil Aviation Authority says.

The bulletin published yesterday simply outlines the facts of the accident "to inform the public and the aviation industry of the general circumstances."

Its information is "tentative and subject to alteration or correction if additional evidence becomes available."

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A spokesman for Bishop David Konstant, chairman of the commission, said he had been one of the initiators of the inquiry. He had frequently complained that his other responsibility as an area bishop for central London made it impossible for him to do both jobs satisfactorily.

Ralph Brown, a vicar general, will be in charge of education in the diocese while a new structure is being worked out. Brown was responsible for organizing the Pope's visit to Britain last year.

## Bowlers locked out in rent row

The 90 bowlers of the St Martin's Club in Hereford have been locked out of their green and pavilion in a dispute over the rent.

When a new landlord took over 18 months ago at the Greyhound Dog public house next door he increased the green rent from £25 a year to £420 and is now asking £1,200. The bowlers say they cannot afford to pay.

## Correction

The letter sent by Professor Lyndon van der Pump to the BBC (report July 25), critical of the Cardiff "Singer of the World" competition, was written on behalf of the Singing Faculties Committee, representative of departments in seven of the major music colleges in the country, not on behalf of the Royal Academy of Music.

Overseas selling prices  
 America \$28; Bahamas \$10.00; Bahrain \$12.00; Belgium \$12.00; Canada \$25.00; Denmark \$12.00; France \$12.00; Germany \$12.00; Greece \$12.00; Hong Kong \$12.00; India \$12.00; Italy \$12.00; Japan \$12.00; Korea \$12.00; Malaysia \$12.00; Mexico \$12.00; New Zealand \$12.00; Norway \$12.00; Philippines \$12.00; Singapore \$12.00; South Africa \$12.00; Spain \$12.00; Sweden \$12.00; Switzerland \$12.00; Taiwan \$12.00; Thailand \$12.00; United Kingdom \$12.00; USA \$12.00.

150 من الأصل



# IRA supergrass who craved fame will always live in fear

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Mr Christopher Black, "a nobody who wanted to be a somebody", has achieved the fame he craved in the strongly nationalist Ardoyne ghetto in north Belfast by giving information which has led to the conviction of 35 people at Belfast Crown Court.

However, his notoriety is not confined to the secret world of the Provisional IRA but to a larger audience, which will remember him as the first Provisional IRA supergrass.

In republican circles he will never be forgiven and it is ironic that it was not because of his skill as a terrorist but because of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, much despised by republicans, that Mr Black's name is established in Northern Ireland.

He may always have wanted to be a somebody but the slight, 5ft 4in man must become a nobody for his own protection and that of his wife, Kathleen, and their four young children.

The paramilitaries seek revenge for his "treachery and betrayal" and as a Provisional Sinn Fein pamphlet said, "his new life will be a worried and uncertain one, forever on the run from any friend of Irish freedom".

It was in November, 1981 that Mr Black was arrested by the RUC after a brief chase, ending the career of a terrorist neither particularly dedicated nor competent and beginning his role as a supergrass.

Mr Black had been sworn

into the Provisional IRA in October, 1975 because he thought "it would be a game, and there would be excitement", and also because he had recently moved into the "Bone area" of the Ardoyne and felt an outsider.

His first job for the Provisional IRA ended in failure when he and others were caught during an armed robbery at premises where he had worked until a few months previously and where his father and brother still worked.

Sentenced to 10 years in jail, Mr Black was released with remission in December, 1980. He was soon asked to rejoin the Provisional IRA and was given the choice of becoming a member of an "active service unit" or a "company".

He chose the "company", nicknamed "The Sweeney", which was responsible for enforcing discipline in clubs in the Ardoyne area. It also assisted an "active service unit" with terrorist attacks.

After four months Mr Black joined an "active service unit" and found himself among former drinking companions and neighbours.

During the next five months of 1981 Northern Ireland was convulsed by the hunger strike in the Maze prison and Mr Black admitted: "It was the policy of the Provisional IRA to keep the thing on the boil".

In November, 1981 he was arrested with two others after

taking part in an illegal checkpoint as a propaganda stunt for the Provisional publication *Republican News*.

For almost two days in Castlereagh remand centre he remained silent but then, afraid of returning to prison, he began talking. Christopher Black, "converted terrorist" as the RUC euphemistically calls supergrasses, was born.

In an 82-page statement he gave details of the Provisional IRA's command structures in north Belfast, of conspiracies to murder members of the security forces and of arms and ammunition dumps in Co Donegal.

His information led to the arrests of 38 people and seriously undermined Provisional IRA operations in the area.

A six-month survey after the arrests saw murders drop from 11 to three, bombings from 26 to one and shootings from 98 to 42. There had been a 61 per cent reduction in overall terrorist activity compared with six months before the arrests.

Mr Black has been granted immunity from his part in serious crimes. He has changed his identity and the RUC has resettled him. Police "minders" will be with him in the initial stage of his new life, whether it be Australia, South Africa or nearer home.

"I thought at one time he would retract," his mother Mrs Margaret Black, aged 62, said. "Now Chris is as good as dead."



Lord Denning sitting on the wall dividing him from Whitechurch council (Photograph: John Manning).

## Denning's dispute in his own back yard

Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, spoke more in sorrow than in anger yesterday of a controversy in his own Hampshire backyard, over a brick wall he has had built.

Three weeks ago, Lord Denning, aged 84, put up the wall in front of a building which he owns, which also adjoins his local town hall, to prevent people using the backyard as an access road.

But then Whitechurch town council complained to the planning authority, Basingstoke and Deane Council, claiming the wall detracted from the appearance of the town hall, a listed Victorian building.

Lord Denning maintains that the building he owns is not listed, and because the wall is in front of it, he is entitled to build it.

He said yesterday he was

quite prepared to accommodate anyone who wanted him to change the wall, but he was upset at the way the Whitechurch town council and the Mayor, Mr Graham Clewer, had complained about the wall without talking to him first.

Lord Denning added that he was the last person to want to disfigure the appearance of the town where he was born.

He explained he had been trying for years to stop

motorists, in particular young motor cyclists, from using his yard, which backs on to a busy road.

Mr Frank Dowling, conservation officer for the Basingstoke and Deane Council, said Lord Denning probably thought his building was not listed because he or the previous owner had not been approached when the list was drawn up in 1953.

## Informers's sister and stepfather held

From a Staff Reporter, Belfast

The stepfather and sister of an informer being held by the Irish National Liberation Army yesterday in another attempt to prevent him from giving evidence against 18 people.

Almost three months ago the group abducted Henry Kirkpatrick's wife, Elizabeth, from her parents' home in west Belfast. She is still being held at a secret address, believed to be in Co Donegal.

His stepfather, Mr Richard Hill, and his sister, aged 12, who live in Belfast, were taken from a holiday home near Killala Bay, Co Mayo, in the

Irish Republic after a struggle. The Irish National Liberation Army said that in the near future it would give a deadline, "by which time Kirkpatrick must have withdrawn his evidence. Failure to do so will result in the immediate execution of all three captives."

Kirkpatrick, aged 25, a former "quartermaster" in the group's Belfast unit, received five life sentences in June when he admitted the murders of two policemen, two members of the Ulster Defence Regiment and a member of the Territorial Army.

## Huge bomb attack is foiled

From a Staff Reporter, Belfast

An attempt by terrorists to launch a huge bomb attack in Belfast using a milk lorry was foiled yesterday by a motorist who told the police that milk bottles were falling off the lorry.

The bomb, estimated at between 400 and 500lb, was packed in four beer kegs.

Last night six men were being questioned by the police. The abortive mission seems to have been terrorist retaliation after the conviction of 35 people on a series of terrorist charges, including membership of the Provisional IRA.

## Channel 4 is facing a big argument over subsidy

By David Hewson

Channel 4 faces a heated argument with the independent television network companies in the next few weeks over how much it should receive in subsidy for its 1984-85 season of programmes.

The channel is pressing the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) to force the independent television companies to pay 18 per cent of their advertising revenues to the station which is fighting to maintain viewing figures representing 5 per cent of the television audience.

The companies, which are paying the channel £100m this year, are now faced with the prospect of bearing it as a permanent drain on their resources. They believe that the subsidy should be kept around 14 per cent, the lowest figure possible, when the decision comes before the IBA next month.

One senior ITV official said yesterday that the issue was a

crucial one for the industry "because we have to force Channel 4 to live in the real world, just like the rest of us."

"Channel 4 is under no financial pressure at the moment while we have to live with the cost of the Equity dispute. There is still a massive imbalance between what Channel 4 costs us and what we earn from it."

The disagreement poses a difficult decision for the IBA, which owns Channel 4. The channel was largely the creation of an earlier generation in the IBA, whose present authorities are thought to be urging a more pragmatic financial attitude towards independent television matters.

But the arguments seem likely to run in Channel 4's favour. Rebellious talk by some smaller ITV companies, which were pressing for the station to be taken over by the network, has been quashed.

## Computer toll booths anger tunnel drivers

From our Correspondent, Liverpool

A computerized automatic toll-gate system installed at the cost of £2m to speed traffic through the two Mersey road tunnels has so far created only delays and arguments between motorists and attendants.

Merseyside County Council brought the booths into operation at the Wallasey tunnel in the spring.

Underground sensors detect the size of each vehicle and what toll is due: 40p for a car, 20p for a motor cycle and £1 for a lorry.

In theory each driver throws the correct money into collecting chutes, the cash is counted, the barrier lifts and the line of vehicles moves smoothly on. Some of the booths are manned by an operator who gives change to drivers so that they can pay.

But in practice the electronic wizardry succeeded only in causing delays of up to an hour on the approach roads. More

trouble is predicted with work starting this week on installing the equipment at the Birkenhead tunnel. Automation of both tunnels is expected to cut staff from 70 to 30.

A Conservative member of the county council is calling for the Wallasey tunnel to be shut while engineers tackle the problems.

Mr Michael Emberton said: "It's unfair on the men in the booths and those controlling the traffic. One of the major problems is that the signs for the correct change lanes are not clear enough."

"The result is that drivers are forced to make split-second decisions. When they discover they have not the right money they have to manoeuvre to give change booth, get the right money then drive forward and put the money in the box."

One motorist said: "It is like a mental agility test trying to get through the tunnel."

## 20p eases burden on shoppers

By John Lawless

Shoppers are suffering much less from trouser pocket sag and handbag carrying fatigue, it was officially declared yesterday.

Not because wage settlements are being trimmed but because coins are getting lighter, according to the annual report of the Royal Mint. The introduction of the 20p coin has meant that 395 million 10p and 24 million 5p coins were withdrawn by the end of May, the mint's deputy master (chief executive), Dr Jeremy Gerhard reports. One prime objective was to reduce weight.

Dr Gerhard does not comment on whether the 100 million £1 coins now in use will start to put the bulk back. But he adds that initial public reaction to the two new coins "varied from the customary suspicion to considerable enthusiasm".

The 20p piece quickly established itself, and there are now 716 million in circulation. "The £1 coin", Dr Gerhard says, "will take some time to enter circulation fully since much depends on the rate at which ticket and change-giving machines are converted."

The Royal Mint still exports to 49 countries but demand for United Kingdom produced coins was at a 20-year low last year.

Raging inflation in Latin American countries, means that some have stopped using coins entirely. But the Mint still managed to stay in the black, although its operating surplus sank from £8.2m to £4.9m.

## Record for Channel swimmer

Alison Streeter, aged 18, wobbled her way out of the water at St Margaret's Bay, Kent, at 3.30pm yesterday, the first British woman to swim the Channel both ways non-stop.

She had been in the sea for 21 hours 16 minutes. Salt water had left her throat raw and the rocks of Cap Gris Nez had cut her feet and legs.

The worst moments for the swimmer, a dealer's clerk with Standard Chartered Bank in the City, were on Tuesday evening when the sun, which had warmed her back, went down.

"It became windy and the waves were strong", Miss Streeter, from Nutfield, Surrey, said. "You have to keep chopping and changing your stroke according to the length of waves, and that is very tiring."

Wet and cold, she started feeding more regularly, treading water while her pilot and the Channel Swimming observer handed out refreshment and encouragement.

In her head she sang through a tape of heavy rock music. "It makes me more aggressive. Classical music tends to slow me down."

Previous Channel doublets have been recorded by four men and a Canadian woman. Miss Streeter's time of 9 hours 22 minutes from Shakespeare Beach, Dover, to France, and 11 hours 54 minutes back was 2 hours 21 minutes behind the fastest.

Last year she did a one-way Channel crossing in 11 hours,



Alison Streeter: Home and dry. 21 minutes. She also has several double crossings from Southern to the Isle of Wight to her credit. "Next year I am thinking of going round the island", she said.

## Dons vote on a degree of change

Oxford University is considering whether to change its way of classifying the degree of its 2,000 graduates who each year are awarded second-class degrees by dividing them into upper and lower seconds.

Oxford graduates have always had either a first second or third-class degree. Other universities classify second-class degrees as upper or lower seconds, which makes it easier for prospective employers to determine whether a job applicant narrowly missed a first or just avoided a third. More than three quarters of Oxford graduates get seconds.

There is a strong feeling at the university against a change because examination papers from students in the middle of the second class would have to be scrutinized much more carefully to ensure that the division was fair.

Dons voted against a similar proposal seven years ago.

## Seafront railway 100 years old

Flags waved and a band played at Brighton yesterday to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the start of the world's oldest public electric railway, which runs for a mile along the seafront.

The narrow gauge train carried more than 300,000 passengers last year and the total number carried is more than 38 million. One passenger for the centenary drive was Mr Conrad Volk, aged 83, of Sevenoaks, Kent, son of Mr Magnus Volk, who built the railway.

## Death crash sign taped in place

An important road sign on the North Circular Road at Edmonstone, north London, where a motor cyclist was killed last December, is still being held in place with tape because of public-spendings.

Dr David Paul, the Horsaey coroner, was told yesterday that the sign with a 30 mph restriction on one side and a deactivation on the other was "swivelling in the wind when Mr Robert Malvany aged 18, of Woodford Green, north London crashed there.

## Satellite Television will be on air 5 hours a night

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

Satellite Television, whose programmes could be the first to be beamed by satellite into British homes, has published the details of its novel channel. It will broadcast five hours every evening during prime time from next January.

The company, which is 65 per cent owned by News International, which runs Times Newspapers, *The Sun* and *The News of the World*, has sent letters to potential cable operators offering them a channel containing a mix of music, sport, news, comedy, films and light entertainment.

The channel will transmit for five hours nightly between 5.50 pm and 10.30 pm on the new European communication satellite ECS-1.

Cable television operators

will in turn transmit the programmes along their networks into homes. Each operator will be charged 10p a month for every subscriber to the service, which will be funded largely by pan-European advertising of six minutes in every hour, similar to the quota established for the IBA.

Sponsorship of programming is expected after the Government has set up the Satellite Television authority to supervise the industry.

The Government has invited applications for 12 cable television franchises, which are expected to be awarded in November.

The BBC yesterday confirmed its commitment to its direct satellite television project.

## Plastic flowers awarded show prize

A display of plastic flowers, in a Devon seaside amusement arcade has been awarded a prize by flower show judges.

Second place in the Dawlish Britain in Bloom's commercial section went to Harrison's Arcade.

When the mistake was uncovered, the resort's mayor, Mr Edwin Thomson, chairman of the local Britain in Bloom committee, said: "The judges knew straightaway the flowers were plastic but they were themselves willing after a long hard day's work. The results were typed out hurriedly and that is when the error was made."

Mr Tony Riches, the arcade manager, said the prize had been a pleasant surprise. "We have a very colourful display which has been here for years."

## Rapist was 'addicted to video nasties'

A wife who watched her husband being sentenced to two life sentences at the Central Criminal Court yesterday blamed video nasties for turning him into a "sex monster".

Mrs Christine Meah said: "He was loving, kind and considerate until he became addicted to watching an endless string of horrifying video films containing detailed scenes of the most depraved and vicious kind."

Mrs Meah, aged 32, who has four daughters, added: "When my husband first began watching these videos, we treated them as a bit of a sick joke. Now I am convinced that they changed his personality and that they should be banned."

He began watching them day and night and they obviously turned him into a Jackyl and Hyde. Things got so bad that our daughters were waking up in the early hours and switching the video on."

Christopher Meah, aged 30, a minicab driver of Ford Road, Bow, east London, pleaded guilty to attacking three women, two aged 30 and one aged 22, at their homes in east London. Meah admitted one charge of rape, two of indecent assault, and carrying a knife as an offensive weapon, malicious wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm to the victims, all friends of his family.

Passing sentence, Judge Gibbons, QC, said that Meah's case highlighted a "misfortune" that a magistrate at Old Street Court had allowed him bail after he had attacked two women six months later he raped a third woman and stabbed her five times after "russing her up like a chicken."

Meah, whose personality was said to have been severely altered by brain damage received in a car crash in 1978, had become "sexually aroused" by his addiction to video films "of the most vile kind", Mr Robin Grey, QC, for the defence, said.

Meah told the police: "I have been taking drugs and drinking and the videos, on top of that, drove me completely out of my head."

The court was told that Meah had surrendered to the police after his first two indecent assaults - in which he stabbed one woman and threatened another with a knife - in February last year, "crying out for help."

But a month later he was granted bail, despite strong police objections and obvious indications that he might attack again Mr Grey said.

Mr Grey said that Meah "felt like he was looking at himself playing a video nasty film role. Meah was jailed for a total of six years for the sexual assaults, to run concurrently with the two life sentences for raping and stabbing the woman at home in east London.

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Survey confirms top prestige of Oxford and Cambridge

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Oxford and Cambridge universities are considered by other academics to have some of the best departments in both teaching and research...

Libya bombs more Chad towns

N'Djamena (Reuters) - The Chad Government said Libya's air force had extended its bombing attacks in northern Chad...

Chad's Information Minister, Mr Soumaila Mahamat, denied rebel claims that the north-eastern towns of Kalali and Chama...

Mobutu wins Washington praise

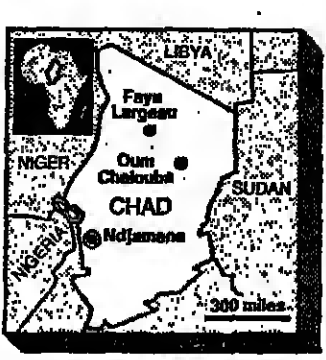
Reagan's Redeye: A US Marine demonstrates the shoulder-fired anti-aircraft weapon being sent to Chad.



Reagan's Redeye: A US Marine demonstrates the shoulder-fired anti-aircraft weapon being sent to Chad.

Libya traded charges and insults as the United Nations Security Council opened its debate on the new phase of fighting between the Chadian forces and the Libyan-backed rebels...

TUNIS: Mr Chedi Khilfi, secretary general of the Arab League, yesterday gave a warning of a worsening in Arab-US relations because of American 'acts of provocation' near the Libyan coast...



Kennedy adds voice to public's war fears

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan's Central American policy is encountering intense national hostility and heading for a renewed congressional clash over the huge display of military might now being positioned in the region...

Gas cloud injures 38 and closes autobahn

Erkeleuz, West Germany (AP) - A fertilizer plant fire sent a poisonous cloud of chlorine gas drifting toward a small West German town...

Eight policemen and 12 civilians were released after treatment for eye irritations, while 18 farmers were sent to the hospital for precautionary check-ups, authorities said.

Manet's pull

Paris - The power of the French Impressionists has been confirmed again by the exhibition of works by Manet...

Paris - The power of the French Impressionists has been confirmed again by the exhibition of works by Manet, which will close at the Grand Palais on Monday after being on view since April 23.

Maseru bomb

Johannesburg - A car bomb exploded in Maseru, the capital of Lesotho, yesterday...

Johannesburg - A car bomb exploded in Maseru, the capital of Lesotho, yesterday, five minutes before civil servants were due to go to work.

Brazil floods

Rio de Janeiro (Reuters) - Dozens of people are known to have died and thousands have been left homeless as a result of the floods which have hit southern Brazil over the past month...

Rio de Janeiro (Reuters) - Dozens of people are known to have died and thousands have been left homeless as a result of the floods which have hit southern Brazil over the past month, according to state and civil defence officials.

Horses stolen

St Omer, France (AFP) - Four racing horses, including a valuable breeding mare, were stolen yesterday from stables at Wisnes near here...

St Omer, France (AFP) - Four racing horses, including a valuable breeding mare, were stolen yesterday from stables at Wisnes near here. A year-old colt, Romeo d'Arc worth £25,000 was among the missing animals.

Four to die

Accra (Reuters) - Four men accused of conspiring to overthrow the Ghanaian government were sentenced to death by a public tribunal...

Accra (Reuters) - Four men accused of conspiring to overthrow the Ghanaian government were sentenced to death by a public tribunal. Seven others were given 18-year prison terms.

Newton fund

Sydney (AFP) - The Australian Professional Golfers' Association has launched a special fund to aid Jack Newton, badly injured when he walked into the propeller of a small aircraft on July 24.

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Safety skid

Karachi (AP) - A Pan Am jumbo jet skidding 243 passengers and crew clattered off the runway into a muddy field while landing in rain at Karachi international airport. No one was injured.

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White swallow

Vienna (Reuters) - An extremely rare white swallow was spotted nesting in northern Bulgaria's Bozha Pass this week. Ornithologists say albino swallows appear only once in 50 to 70 years.

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Plague death

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Youde content

Hongkong (AFP) - Sir Edward Youde, the Governor of Hongkong, has returned from Sino-British talks in Peking on the territory's future, and said his trip had been 'useful'.

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Parlez Breton?

Reims (AFP) - Welsh and Irish writers and university professors have joined US colleagues in urging President Mitterrand to establish a degree in the Breton language.

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Premier quits

Rarotonga (Reuters) - Mr Geoffrey Henry, Prime Minister of the Cook Islands, has resigned, leaving the self-governing Pacific territory without an elected government.

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Correction

A report on July 23 incorrectly stated that a giant panda had just died at the National Zoo in Washington. The panda was the first giant panda born in captivity. It was the sixth born in captivity, outside China and the first in the United States.

Table with columns: Research rank, Points, Teaching rank, Points. Lists universities like Cambridge, Oxford, London, etc.

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Table with columns: Research rank, Points, Teaching rank, Points. Lists universities like Cambridge, London, Strathclyde, etc.

The points system is explained in the text

Campaign to keep old paper mill chimney

A village is fighting to save the type of landscape most people would like to see demolished, a mill chimney which has been standing for 150 years.

Privatization upsets tidy village contest

Hundreds of villages in Yorkshire have lost the chance to shine in the annual best kept village contest because British Telecom privatization measures have left the public telephone boxes filthy.

Grain stocks holding well

The heavy rains of recent days have done little to hinder Britain's growing grain challenge to EEC book-keeping. The National Farmers' Union said after a survey of regional officers that the grain was still coming in steadily.

Nigerians vote tomorrow

Shagari gets tumultuous greeting

From Francois-Xavier Harispe (Agence France-Presse) Ilorin, Nigeria. A sea of thousands of raised arms fills the municipal stadium in Ilorin, capital of Kwara state.

Five killed in Ciskei township

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg. Five people have been shot dead and 22 injured in clashes with police in South Africa's 'independent' Ciskei township where a bitter feud is raging between the Sebe brothers who run it, according to reports yesterday.

Colombo begins debate on separatist ban

From Donovan Moldrich, Colombo. The Sri Lankan Parliament yesterday began debating the sixth amendment to the constitution, which effectively outlaws separatist parties or organizations. The debate took place yesterday.

Reagan envoy continues Middle East shuttle

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem. Intensive groundwork has begun in southern Lebanon on the new Israeli infrastructure along the Awali river, north of Sidon, in preparation for the redeployment of Israeli forces.

Israelis send bulldozers along the Alawi



Jerusalem meeting: Mr Robert McFarlane (right), the US special Middle East envoy, with Mr Begin yesterday at the Israeli Prime Ministers office.

Jerusalem meeting: Mr Robert McFarlane (right), the US special Middle East envoy, with Mr Begin yesterday at the Israeli Prime Ministers office. Intensive groundwork has begun in southern Lebanon on the new Israeli infrastructure along the Awali river, north of Sidon, in preparation for the redeployment of Israeli forces.



Map of the Caribbean Sea region showing various islands.

150 من الاصل



Italy's 44th post-war government

Craxi keeps date with history

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Signor Bettino Craxi has kept the appointment with history he long promised himself by becoming Italy's first Socialist Prime Minister. Now that he has been able formally to announce his acceptance, as well as his choice of ministers, the way is open for him to show his stature.

He is almost unique in the republic's history in never having held any ministry before becoming Prime Minister. The one preceding goes back to the early post-liberation days.

Many commentators point out, moreover, that the price he agreed to pay his allies for the chance of leading a government is high, and he will need to show expertise in diplomacy and manoeuvring if he is to move comparatively freely at the head of his five-party coalition.

He allowed his own party's position inside the government to be severely reduced in exchange for the prime ministership, losing for his followers the Ministries of Defence and Finance which they held in the outgoing Administration.

Though his visit to President Pertini yesterday was historic, it had elements of a last-minute scramble. He arrived 10 minutes late in some tension. His nominee for Deputy Prime Minister, Signor Arnaldo Forlani, the Christian Democrat, was said to have withdrawn his name because of differences with his own party leaders. This little tempest was settled only, it was said, through the intervention of President Pertini.

Signor Craxi waited 20 minutes at the palace, after he had left the President, before reading out his ministerial list. It had had to be retyped, suggesting a number of last-minute changes.

The one touch of emotion and pleasure that Signor Craxi

showed was when he began reading the list, saying "Prime Minister - yours truly."

Signor Craxi strengthened the executive by persuading two party secretaries to take ministries. Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Republican leader, takes Defence, and Signor Pietro Longo, the Social Democratic secretary, has Budget.

As a rule party secretaries prefer to be outside government and are frequently a nuisance to the Prime Minister. Signor Craxi is the unchallenged leader of his own party, and so the only secretaries who remain outside are the Christian Democrat and the Liberal, leaders of the biggest and the smallest of the coalition parties.

The full Cabinet is as follows: Prime Minister: Bettino Craxi (Soc.); Deputy Prime Minister: Arnaldo Forlani (C Dem); Relations: Pier-Luigi Romita (Soc Dem); Public Administration: Ramo Gaspari (C Dem); Relations with Parliament: Oscar Mammì (Rep); Civil Defence: Vincenzo Scotti (C Dem); EEC Policy: Francesco Forte (Soc); Scientific Research: Luigi Granelli (C Dem); Southern Development: Salvatore Vito (C Dem); Foreign Affairs: Giulio Andreotti (C Dem); Interior: Oscar Scalfaro (C Dem); Justice: Mino Martinazzoli (C Dem); Budget: Pietro Longo (S Dem); Finance: Bruno Visentini (Rep); Treasury: Giovanni Cora (C Dem); Education: Giovanni Spadolini (Rep); Education: Franca Falcucci (C Dem); Public Works: Franco Nicolazzi (S Dem); Agriculture: Filippo Pandolfi (C Dem); Transport: Claudio Signorile (Soc); Posts: Antonio Gava (C Dem); Industry: Renato Altissimo (Lib); Labour: Gianni de Michelis (Soc); Foreign Trade: Nicola Capria (Soc); Merchant Navy: Gianuario Carta (C Dem); State Participation: Giolito D'Adda (C Dem); Health: Costante Degan (C Dem); Tourism: Leio Lagorio (Soc); Cultural Heritage: Antonio Gullotti (C Dem); Ecology: Alfredo Biondi (Lib).



'Yours truly': Signor Craxi reading out his Cabinet list at the Quirinale Palace yesterday.

Genschler apologizes over blood throwing

Bonn (Reuter) - Herr Hans-Dietrich Genschler, the West German Foreign Minister, in a telegram to Mr George Shultz, US Secretary of State, yesterday expressed outrage over an incident in which a Greens Party parliamentarian threw blood at an American general.

The attack drew widespread condemnation from other political leaders and newspapers and seemed likely to embarrass West Germany's anti-nuclear protest movement.

Herr Frank Schwaiba-Hoth, a radical Greens deputy in the Hesse state assembly, poured a bottle of his own blood over General Paul Williams during an official ceremony in honour of US forces in the Hesse capital of Wiesbaden yesterday.

He said the action was in protest at Reagan Administration policies in Central America and the planned deployment of US medium-range missiles in Western Europe later this year.

Herr Genschler told Mr Schultz that President Reagan's commitment to peace and West German security "should put to shame those who were involved in this inexcusable and unworthy behaviour towards General Williams."

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) and the opposition Social Democrats (SDP) strongly condemned the attack, while the Greens national leadership maintained silence.

Johannes Ruv, the Social Democrat Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, in a statement issued on behalf of President Karl Carstens, who is on holiday, apologized to General Williams and the American people.

Pressure grows on Mitterrand

Sale of French reserves fails to revive ailing franc

From Roger Beardwood, Paris

The Government is slashing public spending by about 10 billion francs in an attempt to hold its budget deficit to the equivalent of 3 per cent of gross domestic product. State-owned firms are making further cuts of some 12 billion francs. The package will reduce gross fixed investment - according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development - by about 1.5 per cent in 1984.

The new fall of the franc against the dollar (after three devaluations) is likely to balloon the estimated balance of payments deficit this year of \$9.2 billion (£6 billion). And higher oil prices in francs will further twist the inflationary spiral.

Inflation is thus likely to remain well above that in France's main trading partners. In theory, a cheaper franc should raise demands for exports. But two factors are likely to blunt that hope. The first is that many manufacturers will be tempted not to pass on all the exchange rate savings to customers.

The second factor is the producers' ability to respond rapidly to increased demand in the number of unfilled vacancies. At this week's cabinet meeting M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, reiterated the Government's determination to create new jobs and even radiated some optimism. "The rate of inflation continues to slow," he said, "and the balance of payments is improving over the long term."

What worries French people more is the short term. Since the Government announced its policy of "rigour" last March the French have suffered their fair share of shocks. A compulsory loan from taxpayers, equivalent to 10 per cent of taxes on income and wealth, and a levy of 1 per cent of taxable income, to finance social security, are expected to bring in between 25 billion and 30 billion francs (between £2.08 billion and £2.5 billion) - equivalent to 1.3 per cent of private consumption.

Taxes have been raised on petrol, diesel fuel, heating oil, tobacco and spirits. The likely result is a drop of about 1 per cent in private consumption (at an annual rate) before the end of the year.

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The second factor is the producers' ability to respond rapidly to increased demand



DC10's successor: This artist's impression shows the MD100, a three-engine jet being introduced by the McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Corporation of California, which will replace the ill-starred DC10.

Court told of Malta death plot

From a Correspondent Valletta

An Algerian witness yesterday testified before a magistrates' court that Anthony Price an deserter from the Welsh Guards, had planned with a Tunisian to assassinate the Prime Minister of Malta. A third person involved in the alleged plot was said to be a German woman who remains unknown.

The police, yesterday presented their evidence to support the charge of taking part in a conspiracy to subvert the government of Malta by taking up arms against it.

The magistrates will decide on Monday to send Mr Price for trial by jury.

The main witness yesterday was Mr Danyal Baouya, who testified that he had acted as interpreter to Mr Price and a Tunisian called Ben Arous as they discussed the various stages of the alleged plan.

Junta refuses MEP visa

By Patricia Clough

Mr Alfred Lomas, a British Member of the European Parliament, said yesterday that he had been refused a visa to visit Argentina with nine MEP's from other countries. No explanation was given, but Mr Lomas assumed the reason was his frequent criticism of the Argentine regime.

The delegation, which plans to look into the disappearance of political prisoners and to contact democratic groups emerging in Argentina, arrived in Buenos Aires on Sunday. Mr Lomas said he had been writing to the Argentine authorities for many years. "It is ironic that I was opposed to the British Government's action in the Falklands and favoured a negotiated rather than a military solution."

Pakistan deadline for atom tenders extended

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

Pakistan's plan to build its nuclear power plant at Chashma, in the Mianwali district of north-west Punjab, seems to have run into snags. Two days after the time limit for international tenders had passed the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission is said to have set a new deadline.

There has been no official explanation for the extension. It is believed, however, that

prospective contractors are still not sure they can do the job effectively in view of the opposition from the United States and some other Western governments.

These governments have objected because Pakistan has not signed the non-proliferation treaty. President Zia ul-Haq has recently reiterated that he will not sign the treaty unless India also signs.

Six dismissed in Betancur shake-up

Bogotá (Reuter) - President Belisario Betancur of Colombia has dismissed six Cabinet ministers and reassigned two others in a government reorganization that followed changes in the high commands of the Army, Navy and police.

A presidential communiqué on Wednesday night said five of the 13 Cabinet ministers retained their posts. They were the ministers of defence, foreign affairs, finance, mines and energy, and communications.

The reshuffle followed the resignation on Tuesday of 10

ministers and the announcement of what the President called routine changes in the leadership of the security forces.

Señor Rodrigo Escobar Navia, Minister of the Interior, replaced Señor Jaime Arias Ramirez as head of the Ministry of Education, and Señor Arias Ramirez took over the Ministry of Health. Señor Alfonso Gomez was given the Ministry of the Interior.

The new Cabinet still has six members of President Betancur's Conservative Party. The

other seven belong to the Liberal Party. No official explanation was given for the restructuring of the administration.

Following is the Colombian Cabinet after the reshuffle: Defence: General Fernando Landzañal Hoyos; Foreign Affairs: Rodrigo Lora; Coal: Interior: Alfonso Gomez; Finance: Edgar Gutierrez; Agriculture: Rodrigo Marin Berna; Mines and Energy: Carlos Martinez; Labour: Guillermo Alberto Gonzalez; Justice: Rodrigo Lara Bonilla; Health: Jaime Arias Ramirez; Public Works: Herman Puliz; Communications: Bernardo Ramirez; Education: Rodrigo Escobar Navia.

Lloyds Bank Group results for the half-year ended 30 June 1983

"There are some welcome signs of economic recovery, but this has not yet brought significant relief to companies and countries in difficulty, so our provisions for bad and doubtful debts are again high. Nevertheless, many parts of our business have produced good results, and profits have recovered from the lower level of the previous half-year."

Jeremy Morse  
Chairman

Interim dividend

The directors of Lloyds Bank Plc have declared an interim dividend on account of the year ending 31 December 1983 of 10.66p per share (1982: 9.92p), payable on 2 September 1983 to shareholders registered on 5 August 1983. With the related tax credit the payment is equivalent to a gross dividend of 15.2p (1982: 14.2p).

Comment on results

For the first six months of 1983, on a historical cost basis, Group profit before taxation at £193.7 million was £73.7 million (61% up on the second half of 1982, but £9.1 million (4%) down on the first half). On a current cost basis, profit before taxation was £153.9 million (1982 second half: £86.6 million; first half: £144.9 million). Results were again substantially affected by the charge for bad and doubtful debts of £119.8 million (1982 second half: £156.8 million; first half: £62.1 million) reflecting the continuing difficult economic conditions in many parts of the world.

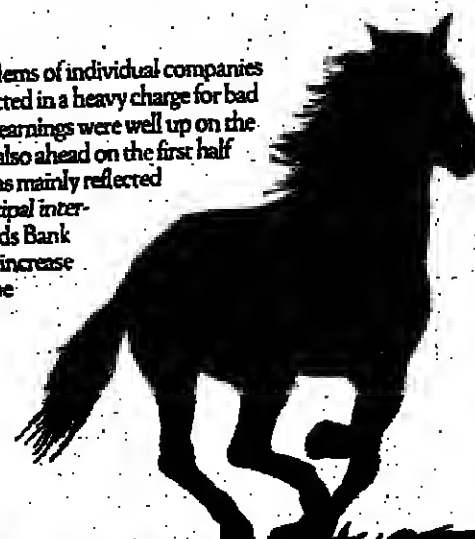
Domestic

Average base rate was 10.4% compared with 10.5% for the second half and 13.4% for the first half of 1982. Over the last six months current account balances grew with inflation, but as advances continued to increase at a faster rate there was increased dependence on interest-bearing deposits and margins narrowed. As the volume of our business grew, costs also increased but were largely covered by a rise in non-funds-based income. After taking account of the charge for bad and doubtful debts, profits were higher than the second half of 1982, but lower than the first half of the year.

Despite increased provisions, operating profits of Lloyds and Scottish were up on both half years of 1982, as a result of a more buoyant market and lower funding costs.

International

The continuing problems of individual companies and countries were reflected in a heavy charge for bad and doubtful debts, but earnings were well up on the second half of 1982 and also ahead on the first half of the year. This trend was mainly reflected in the results of the principal international subsidiary, Lloyds Bank International, where the increase in other operating income helped pre-tax profits at £70.3 million to recover well from the figure of £15.6 million in the second half of 1982 and slightly exceed the first half of £67.4 million.



Group profit (historical cost basis)

(unaudited)	6 months ended 30 June 1983 (£ million)	6 months ended 31 December 1982 (£ million)	6 months ended 30 June 1982 (£ million)
Operating profit of Lloyds Bank Plc and subsidiaries	196.0	122.2	208.7
Share of profits of associated companies	16.8	20.7	15.2
Interest on loan capital	212.8	142.9	223.9
Profit before taxation	19.1	22.9	21.1
Taxation	193.7	120.0	202.8
Lloyds Bank Plc and subsidiaries	57.0	22.4	44.5
Associated companies	7.0	6.3	6.8
Profit after taxation	64.0	28.7	51.3
Minority interests	129.7	91.3	151.5
Profit before extraordinary item	4.2	4.6	2.6
Extraordinary item	125.5	86.7	148.9
Profit attributable to the shareholders of Lloyds Bank Plc	(1.8)	6.9	-
Dividend	123.7	93.6	148.0
Profit retained	20.6	27.8	18.9
Basic earnings per £1 share	103.1	65.8	30.0
Fully diluted earnings per £1 share	65.0p	45.5p	78.6p
Dividend per £1 share (gross equivalent)	64.1p	44.4p	76.0p
	10.66p	14.00p	9.92p
	(15.2p)	(20.9p)	(14.2p)

NOTES

- The Lloyds Bank Group has changed its accounting policy on foreign currency translation following the issue of Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No 20. Amounts required to maintain the value of the local working capital in countries experiencing hyper-inflation have been set against interest income earned in the countries concerned. Other exchange differences on translation of overseas working capital have been taken direct to reserves, whereas previously they were dealt with in the profit and loss account. Comparative figures have been restated. The effect of this change in accounting policy has been to reduce the profit before and after taxation by £11 million in the six months ended 30 June 1983.
- These results include six months to 31 March for Lloyds Bank International Limited and certain other subsidiaries which, as announced by the Chairman at the annual general meeting, are changing their accounting dates this year from 30 September to 31 December. The Group results for 1983 will be announced in early March 1984.
- Analysis of the operating profit of Lloyds Bank Plc and subsidiaries:

	6 months ended 30 June 1983 (£ million)	6 months ended 31 December 1982 (£ million)	6 months ended 30 June 1982 (£ million)
Interest income	2,082.8	2,126.6	2,099.8
Interest expense	1,456.4	1,510.3	1,514.0
Net interest income	626.4	616.3	585.8
Provisions for bad and doubtful debts			
Specific	76.2	138.3	48.1
General	43.6	18.5	14.0
	(119.8)	(156.8)	(62.1)
Net interest income after provisions	506.6	459.5	523.7
Other operating income	268.6	203.1	188.5
	775.2	662.6	712.2
Operating expenses			
Staff	361.1	336.7	320.9
Premises and equipment	84.2	78.6	67.0
Other	133.9	125.1	135.6
	579.2	540.4	523.5
Operating profit of Lloyds Bank Plc and subsidiaries	196.0	122.2	208.7

4 The charge for taxation, which is based on the estimated effective rate for the year, assumes a UK corporation tax rate of 52%. Provision is not made for deferred taxation in respect of accelerated capital allowances relating to equipment used in the business or leased to customers where there is a reasonable probability that such taxation will not become payable in the foreseeable future; as a result, the taxation charge for the six months ended 30 June 1983 has been reduced by £51.5 million (1982 second half: £45.1 million; first half: £58.5 million).

5 The extraordinary item of £1.8 million represents losses on disposal of certain businesses by a subsidiary.

Group current cost profit

(unaudited)	6 months ended 30 June 1983 (£ million)	6 months ended 31 December 1982 (£ million)	6 months ended 30 June 1982 (£ million)
Operating profit of Lloyds Bank Plc and subsidiaries as in the historical cost accounts	196.0	122.2	208.7
Monetary working capital adjustment	A	31.0	64.6
Depreciation adjustment	B	4.8	4.9
	35.9	37.3	69.5
Current cost operating profit	150.1	84.9	139.2
Share of current cost profits of associated companies	12.2	16.8	11.8
Interest on loan capital	162.3	101.7	151.0
Less: gearing adjustment	C	19.1	22.9
	(10.7)	(7.8)	(15.0)
	8.4	15.1	6.1
Current cost profit before taxation	158.5	86.6	144.9
Taxation as in the historical cost accounts	64.0	28.7	51.3
Current cost profit after taxation	89.9	57.9	93.6
Minority interests	2.9	1.6	0.2
Current cost profit before extraordinary item	87.0	56.3	93.4
Extraordinary item	(11.8)	6.3	-
Current cost profit attributable to the shareholders of Lloyds Bank Plc	85.2	62.6	93.4
Dividend	20.6	27.8	18.9
Current cost profit retained	64.6	34.8	74.5
Current cost earnings per £1 share			
Basic	45.0p	29.6p	49.3p
Fully diluted	44.4p	28.9p	48.1p

NOTES

- The monetary working capital adjustment represents the effect of price changes on the net monetary working capital used in the business, except that applicable to countries experiencing hyper-inflation dealt with in the historical cost accounts; the adjustment is calculated by reference to changes in the United Kingdom retail price index and appropriate overseas indices. Net monetary working capital consists of advances and other monetary assets less liabilities on current, deposit and other accounts.
- The depreciation adjustment is the difference between depreciation based on the value to the business of premises and equipment and the depreciation charge in the historical cost accounts.
- The gearing adjustment reduces the monetary working capital and depreciation adjustments by the proportion of capital provided other than by shareholders' funds.



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# Chess chaos after Russia withdraws Kasparov from world semi-final match

The Soviet Union threw the chess world into turmoil yesterday by withdrawing from the world championship semi-finals at the last moment.

The dispute centres on Gary Kasparov, the 20-year-old Soviet grand master, who had been due to play Viktor Korchnoi at Pasadena, in California, on Saturday. Yesterday Kasparov criticized the International Chess Federation (Fide) for choosing Pasadena as the venue.

He said in the newspaper *Sovetsky Sport* that the match should have taken place in Rotterdam, and added that "the holding of these matches under the aegis of Fide might turn out to be impossible".

The ninth Soviet semi-finalist, Valery Smyslov, also announced that he would not be able to take part in the semi-final in Abu Dhabi. He was to have met Zoltan Ribli, a Hungarian.

The Soviet chess federation later issued a statement saying that in view of "violations of Fide rules by its president, Mr Florencio Campomanes, neither the match in Pasadena nor the match in Abu Dhabi will be held".

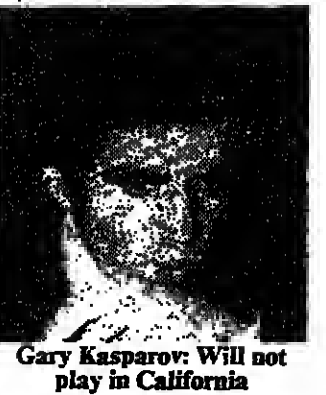
The Soviet federation said it regretted that the fate of the qualifying competitions had not been discussed at a meeting of the Fide executive in Madrid and that some executive mem-

bers had been more concerned to justify senior Mr Campomanes's actions.

Sources said it was not clear why the Soviet authorities had objected so strongly to Kasparov meeting Korchnoi in California. Soviet officials do not relish the prospect of Soviet grandmasters such as Kasparov playing Korchnov, a former Soviet champion who defected to the West.

There is speculation that the authorities were uncertain how a brilliant young chess player like Kasparov might react while in the West. Pasadena is closed to Soviet diplomats.

Soviet officials said this week that the security of players could not be guaranteed in Pasadena and that communications would be easier from Rotterdam.



Gary Kasparov: Will not play in California

Kasparov, who lives in Baku, Azerbaijan, is reported to be resting near his home, but is expected in Moscow on Saturday, the day when he should be confronting Korchnoi in California.

The Soviet move follows a sustained and increasingly virulent campaign against Fide and Mr Campomanes in the Soviet press.

● BELGRADE: Mr Campomanes was quoted yesterday as saying the two matches could be relocated (AP reports).

He criticized the Soviet Union for trying to get special treatment and said it had two days "to change the situation". He made the statement in a telephone interview with the Belgrade newspaper *Vecernje Novosti* from the Fide headquarters in Lucerne.

Mr Bozidar Kazic, a Yugoslav vice-president of Fide, said that the Russians would forfeit the matches if they failed to show up.

"The rules are clear. If a player does not show up for the match within one hour of the set starting time, he forfeits the whole match, not only the first game."

He said it was not clear what Mr Campomanes meant by his statement that other venues could be found. Mr Campomanes criticized the Soviet federation for failing to "show the least amount of good will".



People's women: Captain Beverley Burns (left) and Captain Lynn Rippelmeyer at the controls of a People Express Boeing 737. The International Social Affiliation of Women Airline Pilots says they are two of only four women pilots in the US to achieve captain status flying big jets for a passenger airline.

## Malta still blocking security accord

From Our Correspondent, Madrid

Malta alone continued to hold out for changes in the proposed final document of the conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) yesterday.

If no progress was made Chief Maltese delegate, Mr Evarish Saliba, said Malta would follow the lead of most of the other 34 nations and downgrade its diplomatic representation at the meeting.

Mr Saliba, a veteran of the Helsinki process, reminded fellow delegates at a closed plenary session that Malta is a full participant but "this does not simply mean that we were invited to come and rubber stamp decisions which were not of equal importance to us as they may have been to others."

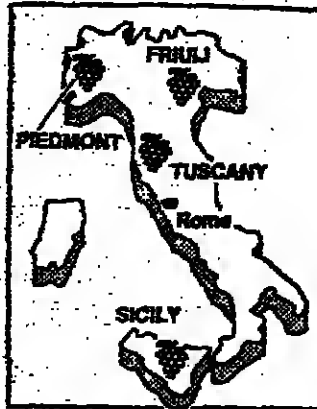
He added: "After about three years of effort the basic elements of an acceptable package have emerged, with one exception. Concrete follow-up action on matters relating to security in the Mediterranean has not yet been formulated. Malta's proposals are intended to fill this gap."

He reminded delegates that no agreement is valued at the conference without the approval of all 35 participants.

## Europe's wine prospects: Part 2

### Italian quality should withstand heatwave

In the second article on Europe's wine harvest, PETER NICHOLS reports from Rome on how the unusual weather has affected Italy's production this year.



For Italian wine this is an unpredictable year, or a more than usually unpredictable year, because of the great heat and humidity. Experts maintain that temperatures are comparable with the blazing July of 1950 which was the hottest for two decades.

The unusual feature is the high degree of humidity accompanying the lack of rain and soaring temperatures. The Barolo producing areas of the Piedmont region look set for a good harvest except for one of the side effects of the damp heat.

It encourages disease and pests, so unusual quantities of chemical product are being used to offset the danger of sickness in the vines. This treatment is regarded as excellent, and there is every reason to be optimistic about the quality, given the abundance of sun. Some rain would nevertheless be a help before the month is out.

In Sicily and most of the south the harvest promises well. But the main Sicilian producers are worried by a strong Sirocco which began blowing on Monday. This dry wind from North Africa damaged 40 per cent of the island's vines last year and could destroy hopes of the good results so far foreseen.

In Apulia the prospects are regarded as good and the quality is expected to be high so long as the weather in August and the first fortnight of September behaves itself.

In general, Italian wine-producers are happier than the farmers about the way the weather is treating them. They also have a certain stimulus because of the success the best Italian wines are enjoying in international markets partly as a result of tighter regulations on quality and origin.

grower at this point is a very strange season units to point out that the unforeseen can occur practically up to the harvest itself.

Chianti growers remain optimistic and underline the good hopes expressed by the producers of Brunello. So far, the quantity is regarded as excellent, and there is every reason for optimism about the quality, given the abundance of sun. Some rain would nevertheless be a help before the month is out.

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Tomorrow: Germany

## Forest blazes ravage coast of Yugoslavia

From Dessar Trevisan, Dubrovnik

Forest fires have ravaged the Yugoslav Adriatic coast, killing at least 12 people and causing enormous damage to woods, olive groves and vineyards.

Dubrovnik, the pride of Yugoslavia's Adriatic coast, narrowly escaped catastrophe. A huge fire, which started in the rugged hills above the city, spread down at enormous speed, moving towards the outskirts of the city, close to the hotels and other places packed with foreign and Yugoslav tourists.

It was only a change in wind direction which saved the city. At least 14,000 sq metres of vegetation were destroyed before the fire was extinguished in the early morning.

Among the casualties were a family of three Hungarians, who are said to have ignored warning signs. There were no British casualties.

In the last few weeks some 50 sq kilometres of vegetation have been destroyed on the Dalmatian coast by the fires caused partly by carelessness.

● AJACCIO: Fire forced more than 100 holidaymakers into the sea when their isolated Corsican beach site was surrounded by flames, local officials said (Reuters, AFP report).

The holidaymakers were camping on the beach of Pinarello, near the southern town of Porto Vecchio.

A small French navy launch helped to evacuate them and 142 people were transferred to Porto Vecchio.

Fires on the French Riviera flared up again late on Wednesday, threatening coastal resorts. High winds and weeks of drought made conditions particularly difficult.

## Vietnam on top of Hayden's Peking agenda

From David Bonavia, Peking

Mr Bill Hayden, Australia's Foreign Minister, held talks here yesterday with Mr Wu Xueqian, his Chinese counterpart.

At a banquet, both men said in speeches that a Vietnamese withdrawal from Cambodia was essential for a settlement of the problem. However, the Australian Labour Government is known to favour a softer approach to Vietnam than Peking's out-and-out hostility.

## Mongolia eases pressure on Chinese

Peking (AP) - The Foreign Ministry said yesterday that Mongolia is slowing its expulsion of Chinese nationals and the situation was improved after consultations.

An estimated 2,000 Chinese citizens have been forced to leave Mongolia since March, according to Chinese and foreign diplomatic sources.

Mongolia, a Soviet satellite, recently stopped issuing offers of work to the Chinese, apparently under Soviet pressure, diplomats said.

Asked about the situation, the Foreign Ministry said: "The situation has now somewhat improved. Both sides are still carrying on with their consultations."

## Policeman wounded after Basque flag protests

From Harry Debellis, Madrid

A member of Spain's national police was in critical condition in the northern city of Gijon yesterday after being hit by four bullets on his way home from night duty. The Basque separatist organization, ETA was suspected.

The shooting came after continuing disturbances in the Basque country related to the flying of the red-and-yellow Spanish flag. A threat by Basque separatists to set off bombs at a series of military installations in Barcelona was disclosed here yesterday.

Police and military authorities apparently inspected the suspected targets selected by the ETA. The search for the bombs began on Monday after an anonymous telephone call. No explosive devices were apparently found.

The threat was related to the imminent trial by a military court of six Basques and a Catalan in connection with a raid on a military barracks in Catalonia in November, 1980. Basque separatists want only the red, white and green Basque flag to be flown in front of government offices.

## Throat surgery kills 180

Dar es Salaam (Reuters) - More than 180 children in southern Tanzania have died in the past three months after a traditional operation to remove part of their throats, according to the regional medical officer.

Mr Samwel Mgenzi told the Shihata news agency that 134 children died between May and July as a result of incompetent

surgery to remove the uvula, a fleshy part of the palate. The operation is carried out in many parts of Africa in the belief that it will protect children against whooping coughs and fevers.

Mr Mgenzi said that the children died because they lost so much blood in the operations.

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THE ARTS

Television Status in death

When the Last Trump sounds over Highgate Cemetery it will herald quite a social occasion.

His companion, a young man from the V and A, had a graceful turn of phrase and an estate agent's honeyed but genuine enthusiasm for these desirable residences.

We seldom bury our dead now. Julian Litten felt sure that two worlds had changed opinion, bringing death as a violent intruder instead of an expected friend.

Surely, rather, modern man cares little for a posthumous reputation that depends on pomp and sees his dead body as a bottle which, once empty, asks only for quick disposal.

Archibald Bowers, in Distant Gums (BBC 2), cheered death as a teenager in the Boer War and is now into his 102nd year.

Anthony Masters

A second series of "Music of Eight Decades", consisting of eight concerts of twentieth-century music, is to be given between October 1983 and June 1984.

Advertisement for Dial M for Murder, featuring a silhouette of a man and the text 'YOUR ONLY CHANCE TO SEE HITCOCK'S DIAL M FOR MURDER'.

Advertisement for the film Runners, featuring a silhouette of a man and the text 'GRAND PRIZE BEST PICTURE BEST ACTRESS'.

Advertisement for The Great York City Ballet, featuring a silhouette of a ballerina and the text 'Returns to the Royal Opera House'.

Theatre Comic prospects turned inside out

The Sleeping Prince Chichester

An air of apology has always surrounded Terence Rattigan's "occasional fairy-tale", in spite of its solid run with the Oliviers in 1953 and its far-from-inconsiderable track record since then.

Fairy-tale or not, a play inviting the West End public to spy on the tom-cattling antics of their betters was not the most tactful celebration of the royal occasion.

For a start, Rattigan's Balkan Duke Charles is the opposite of the Ruritanian ideal. Immersed in the 1911 Coronation festivities while queasily awaiting a coup d'état back in Carpathia.

We seldom bury our dead now. Julian Litten felt sure that two worlds had changed opinion, bringing death as a violent intruder instead of an expected friend.

cial travellers in her native Milwaukee.

The girl, too, turns your dumb-blonde expectations inside out. She may be playing Fifi in The Coconut Girl, but not only does she require to be seduced in the grand manner, she can also monitor clandestine telephone calls to the German embassy and turn them to political advantage.

The best scenes in the piece also comprise its most effective plotting. These circle around the bewitching figure of Charles's Grand Duchess, an improbably genial lady, totally unvisited by jealousy, who capitalizes on deafness to implant her own view of reality on the surrounding events.

For a start, she decides that the Coconut girl is an intimate of Sarah Bernhardt, and therefore speaks French fluently. She promptly adopts the girl as protégée, appoints her a lady in waiting for the Coronation and introduces her to all and sundry as a reigning giant of the European stage.

All this has nothing whatever to do with the main action, but as played by Judy Campbell, radiating steeled benevolence and myopic clarity, it offers a sustained and brilliant corridor of high comedy.



From doll into courtesan: Debbie Arnold with Omar Sharif's charming prince

Sharif does not help matters by taking the line of least resistance and making him as sympathetic as possible right from the start. He makes an imperiously regal figure, combining Balkan fire with scrupulous English manners.

There is a striking short appearance by Frances Ruffelle as the brattish tantrum-throwing Princess Louise; John Moffatt does gallantly stoical service as the resident Foreign Office dogsboddy; and Jason Carter sticks up gamely for the rebel heir to the throne.

Peter Coe's production contains much burlesque Balkan exotica from a group of handwoven flunkies shimmying in with dinners for two; and there are endless variations on the art of leaving a room backwards. Peter Rice equips the Carpathian Legation with a stunning cut-glass saloon, which endorses all the early claims for the country's prosperity and its right to a ringside seat in the Abbey.

Irving Wardle

Opera Karajan's priorities

Der Rosenkavalier Salzburg Festival

Whatever troubles he may be having in Berlin, Herbert von Karajan is still king in Salzburg, and holds his sway this year in a Rosenkavalier where most of the action is in the pit.

Following his custom of two decades, he dispenses with the services of a producer. More unusually, he makes do as well without a designer, preferring to haul out again the sets by Teo Otto that were made for the 1960 festival.

They still look splendid and work well, even if it is slightly baffling that Salzburg should have been holding on to these sets and Erni Kniepert's elegantly lavish costumes after mounting another, none too happy, production of the opera to the late 1970s.

That may be because she feels somewhat ill at ease in a role that never seemed likely for her. Asking her to play Octavian is like using a blow-lamp to make the tea: she is too wild and fiery a creature. And, though she is also too magnificent a singer not to produce a great many beautiful ideas, the uncomfatableness of the part for her keeps showing through in things that are baldly presented or too sudden. Curiously enough, she makes the peasant hoarseness affected by most Octavians.

A low-profile Marshallin and an Octavian out of her



Kurt Moll: single-handed battle for comedy

element thus leave Karajan in unrivalled command of the first act, and he appears in his dispassionate way almost to exult in the possibilities. Of passionate sweep there is little, but the fine detail of the score comes bubbling to the surface, ready to do business. Watching Karajan - and when there is so little happening on stage one does indeed watch him - there is little to be observed: the odd thrust of the arm, the odd spasmodic jerk of the upper body. He now looks his age. But his mastery of the Vienna Philharmonic is never for a moment in doubt.

Otherwise the heroes of this Rosenkavalier are Kurt Moll as Ochs and Janet Perry as Sophie. Mr Moll, who is patently experienced enough to be adding his own production details, fights an almost single-handed battle to make the opera look like a comedy, while at the same time his singing is as mellifluous and meaningful as ever; he alone gets words and sense across. Miss Perry is everything a Sophie should be, with a useful line in drawdown, quiet singing of high phrases that seems like an expression of pure innocence of soul bypassing crude sound.

Among the rest, Gottfried Hornik is a refreshingly unfussy Fainal; "Bo" - a man of some substance and point, as surely this nouveau riche is likely to be. But even though Mr Moll and his cronies are getting the stage alive by the last act, even though Miss Tomowa-Sintow begins then to acquire dignity and character, even though there are these interesting interpretations among the minor roles, it is Karajan's and the orchestra's Rosenkavalier.

Paul Griffiths

Cinema

The old broom that knows the corners best



Dial M for Murder (PG) ICA Cinema

Runners (15) Gate Noting Hill

The week's new films form a distinctly odd couple. Hitchcock's version of Frederick Knott's stage thriller Dial M for Murder was made in 1953, but released for the first time in Britain with its original 3-D effects - is set in a fusty theatrical wonderland, where droll chief inspectors solve fiendish crimes in capacious Maida Vale flats.

The importance of Dial M for Murder lies not only in the perspective effects that restore full life to one of the few films from the Fifties' 3-D craze, ever directed by a major figure. For the material itself inhabits a fascinating corner of popular culture. Knott's play, first performed, in 1952, seems the Shaftesbury Avenue thriller incarnate.

breakfast, and pronounces bank as bank.

For Hitchcock the film merely served to complete his studio contract: "I just did my job", he told François Truffaut. His interest in the material indeed seems to fluctuate. One senses his delight in the wry humour of Chief Inspector Hubbard, who arrives late in Act II, hangs up his hat and stealthily ferrets out the truth. (The part is deliciously played by John Williams, from the Broadway cast, though he never lets us forget that his birthplace was Chalfont St Giles.) Elsewhere, Hitchcock seems principally interested in the bungled attempt on Grace Kelly's life, a sequence which took almost a week to shoot. While she answers the phone, her hired attacker attempts strangulation; during the

struggle, scissors are snatched from a wicker mending-basket and end up quivering in the attacker's back.

The scene is lifted directly from the play (Knott himself wrote the screen adaptation), but Hitchcock's clear delight in its cruel irony ensures extra impact. Apart from this upsurge of 3-D Grand Guignol, Dial M for Murder is remarkable for the subtle, even beautiful, use of three-dimensional imagery. While Knott's characters weave their complicated web of infidelity, blackmail and deceit, Hitchcock's camera pursues the actors around armchairs, table lamps, desks and doorways in long, sinuous takes. We seem to be witnessing a half-abstract ballet of objects, people, decor and space, and the effect is hypnotic.

Runners returns us with a bump to

the contemporary Britain of unemployed youngsters, urban decay and disintegrating families. Rachel, the 11-year-old daughter of a conventional couple, vanishes one morning into the misty Nottingham light. Her father Tom (played by James Fox) obsessively hunts for possible clues as the months pile up. Two years later, he journeys to London, scouring the streets in the nourishing company of another questing parent (Jane Asher); yet, when his child is found, he only encounters further bewilderment and pain. "I know it doesn't explain it very well", says Rachel, after a fudged attempt at self-analysis. Indeed it does not, though Poliakoff and Sturridge at least leave matters vague on purpose. For Runners is no crusading drama stamped with sharp analyses and indictments; the aim instead is to present the eddies of hope and despair suffered by the parents left behind, to draw out the atmosphere of an alien, unfriendly world. Runners presents the "how" of the matter, from which the "why", perhaps, may be inferred.

The film's motivating idea is admirable and imaginative; the trouble lies in the execution. The vision of a collapsing society may come naturally to the dramatist of Hitting Town and City Sugar, but its particular expression in Runners is never conveyed with ease. We constantly see the puppeteer's hand pulling the strings, shifting the scenery, manipulating our responses. For dialogue, Poliakoff adopts a style of determined flatness, presumably to domesticate the characters' nightmare plight; the boredom of ordinary conversation is effortlessly achieved, though without the emotional resonance that would make the exercise worthwhile.

For Charles Sturridge, the material presents a curious contrast to the lush pastures of Brideshead Revisited. In Granada Television's treatment of Evelyn Waugh, the decadence was mainly confined to the characters' minds and bodies; here it is externalized in litter, sleazy alleys, a gaunt Notting Hill flat, the faded pomp of the Grosvenor Hotel at Victoria Station. "It's falling to bits, isn't it?" Fox rightly observes after his tour of Poliakoff's London; under Sturridge, however, it falls with a maddegoing languor.

Geoff Brown

Rock

Dr John Dingwalls

Despite an unfortunate illness, rumours of Dr John's early retirement have been greatly exaggerated. As if to emphasize his recent recovery New Orleans's favourite white soul did has darndest to turn Dingwalls into an approximation of his home-town Tipitina's. But then a visit from a pianist as well liked as Mac Rebennack is always a cause for celebration. On this occasion Dr John was assisted by the sympathetic sounds of Chris Barber's band, their sax, bass, guitar and drums being used to add tone and texture to the main man's versatile rhythm and blues.

Dr John's roots are those of the Crescent City itself; apart from his purely R&B playing there was a melting-pot swamp of jazz-inflected cajun piano boogie and mardi gras. Inevitably Rebennack pays homage to his New Orleans peers, Allen Toussaint and Earl Booker, while all the time filtering his unique blend through memories

Rock

of the original Louisiana piano master, Professor Longhair.

The set consisted of tried and tested favourites like "Stagger Lee", "Iko" and "Booker's Juicco Partner", yet these were all executed with a vocal warmth and fervour that elevated the traditional into the mainstream of living music. Dr John is of that rare breed who can tamper with a form and breathe fresh life into it by doing so.

It was a measure of his material that he could perform so lengthy a set and barely touch on byou classics, though their influence was always bubbling at the surface. The highpoints of an energetic set for me were a sterling version of his and Doc Pomus' updated "Don Tomps Rouler", a glorious rocking "Such a Night" and the unexpected pleasure of seeing him strap on a guitar for "Mojo", a raw tribute to Muddy Waters. The evening's entertainment came full-circle with a rousing "Tipitina". Camden Town can never have felt so close to the French Quarter.

Max Bell

Promenade Concert

SCO/Kuhn

A visit to the Promenade Concerts on Wednesday by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra drew not far short of a full house, and afforded a good deal of pleasure under Gustav Kuhn's conducting. Symphonies by Haydn and Schubert framed the D minor Piano Concerto of Mozart (K466), in which Mitsuko Uchida was a thoughtful rather than brilliant soloist, and had the same tendency to left-hand heaviness that I noted in her City of London Festival programme last month.

In this concerto performance it was less obtrusive except when Mozart is alternating the focus of attention from one hand to the other, and in the more impassioned passages, like

that at the centre of the slow movement, Miss Uchida effectively contained her eloquence within the limits of formal style. She broke out of it to play the cadenzas Beethoven wrote for the first and last movements, which to me sound imposed from outside rather than growing from within.

Otherwise, the pianist's performance was notably well integrated with that of the orchestra, even though the conductor spurned the use of any score for accompaniment. He was very clear and very decisive about his intentions throughout the programme, and was more successful in implanting dynamic shading to the orchestral playing than in rhythmic inflexions, which often seemed to elude the players.

Both in Haydn and Schubert the conductor kept the musical

Advertisement for the film Runners, featuring a silhouette of a woman and the text 'RACHEL LINDSAY IS MISSING RUNNERS'.

Advertisement for the play Cowardice, featuring a silhouette of a man and the text 'OPENS AUG 11 at 7.0pm REDUCED PRICE PREVIEWS UNTIL AUG 10'.

Advertisement for the National Theatre, featuring a grid of play titles and dates for the week of August 8th to 13th.



SPECTRUM

THE TIMES GUIDE TO THE WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The eyes of the world will turn to Helsinki on Sunday, when 1,500 athletes from 161 countries begin eight days of gruelling competition on track and field in the world championships. Pat Butcher examines the ambitions, politics and personalities involved

moreover... Miles Kington

Who can beat the superpowers?

When Paavo Nurmi carried the Olympic torch into the Helsinki stadium in 1952, a lot of people felt that justice had been done. Nurmi, the greatest distance runner that Finland and the world had ever seen, had been banned for "professionalism" 20 years before, and this gesture to the old man was seen as some reparation for the sins of the administrators in maintaining their outmoded amateur laws.

The stadium in Helsinki has been refurbished for the first International Amateur Athletic Federation world championships, and so, finally, have the laws on amateurism. Athletics is moving into a new era. The IAAF, the governing body of the sport, has this year introduced a system of "athletes' funds" which allows participation money for races and deposits the proceeds from advertising contracts in a trust fund from which athletes can draw to pay for their coaching, their travelling expenses and so on.

In ratifying the new rules, the IAAF managed to avoid a threatened split between some western countries who favoured outright professionalism, and two of the major athletic powers, the Soviet Union and East Germany, to whom the idea was anathema. The IAAF now hopes to cement the reconciliation with the biggest athletics meeting ever held.

The IAAF is certainly the biggest sports body in the world. With 170 countries under its aegis, more than the membership of the United Nations, it has managed to subordinate every shade of political, racial and religious opinion to the simple creed of athletic competition.

The athletes have responded with an unparalleled burst of world record breaking. Eighteen new marks have been set since the middle of May, when athletes began their final preparations for next week's competitions.

The largest contingents, with more than 100 each out of a total of 1,500 elite competitors, will be from the Soviet Union and the United States.

The Americans are eager to make up for having missed the boycotted 1980 Olympics. Carl Lewis, who won three titles in the United States championships six weeks ago, is looking forward to Helsinki with relish. "That will be a better track meet than the Olympics," he has said.

Lewis had merely expressed a self-evident truth; it is one, however, that the IAAF is trying not to mention. Track and field athletics represent the hub of the Olympic Games, but the greatest number of nations ever to compete in the boycott-ridden Olympics was 108, at Munich in 1972. Helsinki this weekend will welcome athletes from 161 of the 170 member countries.

John Holt, the general secretary of the IAAF, implies that the choice of Helsinki was made with an eye to the problems that have beset the Olympics: "Helsinki would be completely free of any political tensions; no likelihood of any 'incidents'." But as the capital of a neutral country, albeit one sharing a common border and therefore natural ties with the Soviet Union, the choice of Helsinki also serves the politically conciliatory purpose of the IAAF.

Dr Primo Nebiolo, the progressive and publicity-seeking president of the IAAF, puts it in more dramatic terms: "Finland is the temple of athletics." It has been his regular clarion call at press conferences this year. The Greeks, who staged an excellent European championships in Athens last year, might jibe at the appropriation of the term "temple", but they could not match the average Finn's capacity for worship of track and field.

Athletics is the national sport, at least in the summer, and the Finns have a reputation as the best informed fans anywhere in the world. Such has been the incursion of the sport into Finland's public life that Urho Kekkonen, a former high jump champion, was President of the Republic of Finland from 1956 to 1981.

The Helsinki stadium was originally



Javelin world record holder Tiina Lillak, Finland's best hope for a medal

built for a projected 1940 Olympics. The Finns finally got their Games in 1952: since then the stadium has been a regular venue for such major competitions as the European championships and the European Cup.

A weather-worn statue of Paavo Nurmi stands in the stadium concourse, a permanent reminder of the great tradition of distance running which began in Finland with Nurmi's predecessor, Hannes Kolehmainen, in 1912, the year that the IAAF was founded.

The other great discipline in Finnish athletics is the javelin. Tiina Lillak, the women's world record holder, is unbeaten this year in an event which also has a strong British interest, since

Tessa Sanderson has the third best of all time 73.58 metres behind Lillak's new world record of 74.76 metres. The technical events are far less likely to throw up "unknown" winners, and Lillak's record, plus the impetus of a home crowd make her - like the Greek javelin thrower Anna Verouli last September - the host nation's best, and perhaps only, chance of a gold medal.

It can be safely predicted that the United States, the Soviet Union and East Germany will dominate the medal tables. The first appearance of China, which already has a world-record holder of the high jump, is eagerly awaited, and the excitement provided by the unforeseen winners who revive any sport will surely not be missing either.

TIMETABLE/TV

Table listing the schedule of events for the World Athletics Championships from Sunday, August 7 to Thursday, August 11. It includes details for various events such as 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1000m, 1500m, 2000m, 3000m, 4000m, 5000m, 10000m, 15000m, 20000m, 30000m, 40000m, 50000m, 60000m, 70000m, 80000m, 90000m, 100000m, 110000m, 120000m, 130000m, 140000m, 150000m, 160000m, 170000m, 180000m, 190000m, 200000m, 210000m, 220000m, 230000m, 240000m, 250000m, 260000m, 270000m, 280000m, 290000m, 300000m, 310000m, 320000m, 330000m, 340000m, 350000m, 360000m, 370000m, 380000m, 390000m, 400000m, 410000m, 420000m, 430000m, 440000m, 450000m, 460000m, 470000m, 480000m, 490000m, 500000m, 510000m, 520000m, 530000m, 540000m, 550000m, 560000m, 570000m, 580000m, 590000m, 600000m, 610000m, 620000m, 630000m, 640000m, 650000m, 660000m, 670000m, 680000m, 690000m, 700000m, 710000m, 720000m, 730000m, 740000m, 750000m, 760000m, 770000m, 780000m, 790000m, 800000m, 810000m, 820000m, 830000m, 840000m, 850000m, 860000m, 870000m, 880000m, 890000m, 900000m, 910000m, 920000m, 930000m, 940000m, 950000m, 960000m, 970000m, 980000m, 990000m, 1000000m.

FAVOURITES FOR MEDALS

A grid of 24 small black and white portraits of athletes, each accompanied by a short biographical note. The athletes listed include Ed Moses, Mary Decker, Tom Petranoff, Evelyn Ashford, Carlos Lopes, Robert de Castella, Mohammed Kadir, Eamonn Coghlan, Grete Waitz, Marita Koch, Marlies Göhr, Udo Beyer, Jürgen Hingsen, Anisoara Cusmir, Jarmila Kratochvílová, Tatyana Kazankina, Yuri Sedyk, Wladislaw Czapiewicz, Bert Cameron, and Ilona Slupianek. Each note provides details about their sport, nationality, age, and recent achievements.

Carl Lewis is the man to beat

The world is waiting for Carl Lewis. And if his recent performances in the United States are any indication, the world will not have to wait very long. Lewis is only a whisper away from three world records, two of which he came close to setting in one afternoon six weeks ago. He is already everyone's potential "Best Athlete of the Championships".

It is unlikely that anyone will equal, let alone surpass Owens's feat of four world records in an afternoon - the 100 yards, 200 yards hurdles, and "running broad jump" - in Ann Arbor, Michigan on May 25, 1935. But Lewis's three victories in two days, plus qualifying heats at the US championships in Illinois in

200 metres, but he is favourite for the other two events, plus a third expected gold medal as a member of the US 4 x 100 metres relay squad.

As a schoolboy, Lewis won a race at a Jesse Owens junior meeting, and received a medal for his performance from Owens himself. That was a decade ago, but for last two years what Lewis has been receiving for his performances is direct comparison with the great man.

The comparison is all the more tempting since Lewis competes in the same events as Owens. But the 22 year old still has a little way to go to justify being mentioned in the same breath as the man who broke four world records in one afternoon in 1935, and won four gold medals in the Berlin Olympics the following year.

But in deference to Lewis, he has just done something that Owens never managed. He won three events in the US championships in mid-June, the first man to take two sprint titles and the long jump since 1886. The Helsinki programme may preclude Lewis attempting the

one of the finest achievements of modern athletics times. Rain and a headwind kept Lewis's time down to 10.2/sec when winning the 100 metres, with Calvin Smith, later to break the world record at altitude, in third place. With his first jump the following day, Lewis cleared 8.79 metres, just 11 centimetres down on Bob Beamon's "unbeatable" world record, also set at altitude in the Mexico Olympics in 1968.

Lewis took only one more of a possible six jumps, doing the third best ever of 8.71m before going to the 200 metres. He won his heat in 20.15sec, and when leading the final, threw his arms up 50 metres from the line to celebrate his triple victory, and found that he had run 19.75, only missing Pietro Mennea's world record, also set at altitude, by three hundredths of a second. And there's the rub.

But for the performances in rarified air, which helps the explosive events like sprints and jumps, Lewis would currently hold three world records. For earlier in the season, he ran 9.97sec for 100 metres, only two-hundredths away from Jim Hines's record, also set at the Mexico Olympics. Then Calvin Smith, who has not beaten Lewis this year, set a new record of 9.93 at Colorado Springs, another high-altitude venue.

Lewis turned down the offer to compete at Colorado Springs. It has become a question of honour with him that if he breaks world records, it will be at sea level.

In the 1981 World Cup, Lewis tried to compete in the 100 metres and the long jump on the same afternoon. He won the long jump, but finished last in the 100 metres, which prompted Allan Wells to say that Lewis should stick to one event. After the 100 metres in Helsinki, Wells, the Olympic 100 metres champion, will probably wish that Lewis had taken his advice.



Lewis: Likened to the great Jesse Owens

The painful path to gold

The withdrawal of Sebastian Coe from the Helsinki team because of illness, and the possibility of Graham Williamson doing the same through injury, follow as much of the same sort of news from other star British performers - Daley Thompson, Dave Moorcroft, Steve Overt, Keith Connor and Steve Cram - that the season has begun to sound more like preparation for a world war than for the world championships.

The threat of injury or sports-related illness is nowadays omnipresent. Launching the National Coaching Foundation on Tuesday, Dr Nick Whitehead pointed to a need for more medical supervision of top athletes by drawing comparisons between the training of past and present athletes.

Dr Whitehead, the foundation's chairman and manager of the Helsinki team, related to his international athletes in the early 1960s, he and Peter Radford had amazed Harold



Thompson, left, and Cram: Fighting back after injury

Abrams, the British 1924 Olympic 100 metres champion, who has delivered most of those British stars (although not alas, Dave Moorcroft) to Helsinki minus bandages, walking sticks and wheelchairs. So how should they fare?

Fortunately, judicious treatment of the sort which Dr Whitehead is seeking to expand has delivered most of those British stars (although not alas, Dave Moorcroft) to Helsinki minus bandages, walking sticks and wheelchairs. So how should they fare?

Quite simply, Steve Overt, Daley Thompson and Keith Connor are the best in the world at their events when results under pressure are the criteria. And that is exactly what they

convened yesterday to reconsider the British application to allow Overt to take Sebastian Coe's place in the 800 metres (see sports pages).

Daley Thompson considers he is at present worth 8,500 points in the decathlon. The world record, held by his great rival, Jürgen Hingsen of West Germany, is 8,777 points. They have leap-frogged each other twice in the world record stakes, but Thompson has never been beaten by Hingsen in competition, and the reclamation of his record in defeating Hingsen for the European title in Athens last year may have set the pattern for Helsinki.

Keith Connor's phlegmatic temperament hides an urge in him as great as Thompson's. He, too, won both the European and Commonwealth titles last year, and is considered the man to beat in Helsinki.

Allan Wells should not lightly be dismissed even though the Americans will be after the Olympic champion's scalp. He has proved that no one in the seemingly unshakable world of sprinting runs to a seasonal peak as efficiently.

Tessa Sanderson is the best hope among the women, but she has yet to prove her record-breaking form in a top competition. There is no better than this competition, and the prognostication of the British Board chairman, Dr Bill Evans, of ten medals from Helsinki would be a worthy fulfil.

Not worth the candle

Christmas. Seems a long way off, doesn't it? Very far indeed from the hot sunny days we are enjoying, the lazy sunny afternoons broken only by the occasional thunderstorm or the outdoor rock festival in the next field.

And yet, you know, we are more than halfway through the year already. The days are growing shorter, the conkers are full-grown on the chestnut trees and the swallow is already thinking about getting out its Times Atlas and planning a pretty route back to South Africa.

The last posting date for first-class Christmas mail to outlying parts of Afghanistan and the more rural areas of Alderney has already passed.

Makes you think, doesn't it? That's why the wiser among us will now be planning our campaign for Christmas present buying. Checking the lights for the Christmas tree. Making sure that we have a list of people who sent us cards last year...

Exasperated Reader: Well, get a move on, for heaven's sake. I have to get out at the next stop.

Myself: No, this is not a sermon. All will be made clear in good time.

Reader: Well, get a move on, for heaven's sake. I have to get out at the next stop.

Do you remember last year, when you swore to yourself that you would get all your shopping done by mid-December? It didn't quite work out that way, did it? You had to send Christmas cards, because you'd forgotten to put an ad in The Times saying you weren't sending any.

And at the very last moment you realized you hadn't bought anything for Aunt Bertha, and you gave her that blanket which Cousin Matilda had given you the year before, unopened, and you still aren't quite sure if you'd taken off the label reading: "Lots of love from Matilda, Xmas 1982".

You know, thoughtlessness like this can cause quite unnecessary heart feelings. Failing to plan ahead for the festive season doesn't just involve yourself in awkwardness; it also brings suffering to others.

This year, tell yourself that things are going to be different. Start planning now! Exasperated Reader: I'd rather you just told me what this is all meant to be about. I am a busy man. I have to spend a long day at the office speculating on currency. I can't waste time with all this fatality about Christmas.

Myself: I'm sorry. Reader: So cut out the facetiousness and get to the point.

Myself: Well, the thing is that I have recently acquired, very cheap, a shipment of 300,000 coloured candles from the Third World, with a view to making a fortune at Christmas time. Unfortunately, tests have shown that the candles will go off by October, being made of some inferior fat, and start smelling of the Third World. So I have to offload them now.

Reader: So this is all leading up to some Special Moreover Christmas Offer? Buy your candles now and see them go rotten in a month's time?

Myself: Something like that, yes. Only you keep interrupting.

Reader: My dear boy, I'm so sorry. I had no idea you were engaged to business. Myself: That's all right.

Reader: Only you know, we're so used to journalists just rabbling on and on. But if you're flogging shoddy goods at a huge profit, then you're a man after my own heart.

Myself: Thank you. Reader: No chance you can cut me in on this? Well, perhaps we can meet for a drink later and talk about it.

Myself: Perhaps. Reader: Good. Right. I'll keep my mouth now. Carry on. Soak those candles to them! Myself: Thank you, I will.

What can be more delightful at Christmas than coloured candles? A glow in the window, a warm flame in the home? It so happens that Moreover Enterprises Ltd has recently acquired a small quantity, strictly limited, of top quality, hand-made...

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 119)

A crossword puzzle grid with 25 numbered squares. Below the grid are the clues for the puzzle, divided into 'ACROSS' and 'DOWN' sections. The clues include: 1 Savoury appetizers, 2 Small talk, 3 Impish, 4 Nothing, 5 Analgesic, 6 Love poetry music, 7 Hebrew letter, 8 Toothed wheel, 9 Quadrilateral, 10 Retribution seeker, 11 Charity, 12 Roof room, 13 Regional, 14 Naive Australian, 15 Register, 16 Sugar cane shoot, 17 Small talk, 18 Lass, 19 In the mind, 20 Scornful remark, 21 Powered attractor, 22 Twist ear, 23 Midday, 24 Perquisite, 25 Go into again, 26 Hair cutter, 27 Paris underground, 28 Delightful place.

سكوا من الأصل



# The fathers fight back

**Helen Mason sits in with an organization dedicated to helping fathers from broken families to maintain links with their children**

Motherhood red in tooth and claw is a concept instantly understood by most people who have ever given birth and one honoured by most British courts. Nine out of ten give custody to a mother in a divorce case. Fatherhood is seen as an altogether more dignified, detached experience. Recently I have spent a lot of time with parents deprived of their children, who find it just as obsessively miserable as I would. They were all men.

Twice a month, in various parts of the country, meetings are held for such men. Known as "Walk-in, Talk-in" sessions, they are sponsored by an organization called Families Need Fathers. FNF has no headquarters, no paid staff. It is a collection of individuals who know how it feels to be cut off from their children and have learned how to fight for their rights. They publish pamphlets and newsletters, organize rallies, lobby for equality of parental rights and offer support in custody hearings as Friends in Court.

One of their greatest aims is reeducating a public which regards the bond between mother and child as paramount or unique. Another is offering advice and the benefit of experience to benefit fathers who fear they will never regain the right to share their children.

The London meetings are held in the Conway Hall on the first and third evenings of each month, open to anyone who care to walk in. At 7.30 pm at least one member of FNF establishes himself as host, in a shabby parody of a homely room with pink flowered wallpaper and a hearth rug. A few bare wooden chairs are arranged in a circle, many more are discreetly stacked outside. No one knows how many seats will be necessary.

On the evening I went, the host was a child psychiatrist named Robin. My escort, James, was a literary researcher whose wife now lives in America with their two sons and a new husband. James's battle to prevent the emigration of his boys has cost him a lot of money and has become a cause célèbre in FNF annals. He speaks about his case in a mild, controlled way and gives the impression of being shell-shocked. In the concept now abolished by

divorce courts, he was the innocent party.

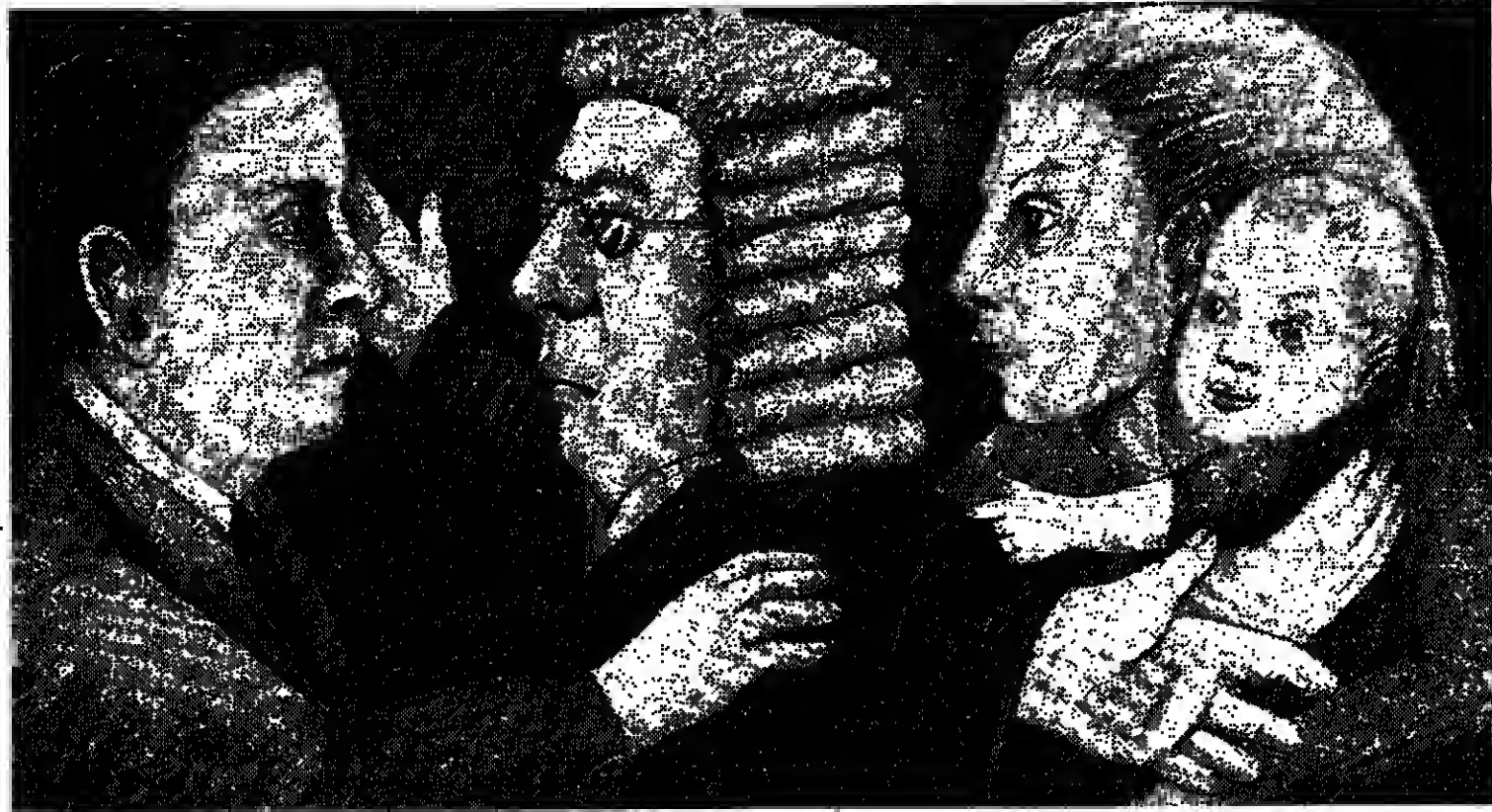
Prevention of children leaving the country has become his main concern, and he has a file of case histories. One recent battle went as far as the European Commission of Human Rights, brought by a father trying to stop his children being taken in South Africa, not only because of the distance but because he does not want them to grow up under apartheid. FNF hoped his case would transform the law, but it was never heard by the European Court. It was turned down because all sources of British justice had not been exhausted, that is, it never went to the House of Lords. The father could not afford to prepare his case for the Lords.

There were no such dramatic stories at the "Walk-in Talk-in" I attended, or at least none with locations so exotic. But the principle is just as painful for a Londoner whose wife has moved the children to Dorset, as another whose family is living in Saudi Arabia. The parent with custody has the right to decide where to live. Not unexpectedly, this is a subject which crops up often at FNF meetings.

Robin, our host, determinedly relaxed and much given to wry jest, said he would like to write a clause into the marriage service: "Should there be issue of this union, and spouses wish to separate, they should remain for all time within half an hour travelling time of each other."

It raised the sort of wan smile inspired by jokes from a pulpit, unexpected, welcome, but not hilarious. For most of the people present, physical distance from their children was not such a problem as access. One of the first men to arrive was a father who has not seen his children for ten weeks. They are aged six and three, and he looked near to tears as he talked about them. He was a tight-faced, bearded young man, his expression fixed by the unnatural calm bereaved people often show at funerals. With him was the woman he plans to marry.

His wife is denying access until maintenance payments are sorted out, although the court and her own solicitor have instructed her to keep



the two issues separate. There are no legal sanctions against her.

Before 8pm there were ten people in the room, chairs scraping to widen the circle with each arrival. A tall, brown-haired man in his early thirties listened in silence for a while, looking troubled and slightly helpless. His problem is that he is unmarried. Unmarried fathers have no legal rights at all to their children. He had the quietly stubborn air of a gentle dog which has its teeth in the jacket of an intruder - no idea what to do next but won't let go. He split up with the mother of his daughter before the baby was born, but has tried to maintain daily contact with the child, who is now 19 months old.

He said: "I could be cut out of her life. Her mother is doing a marvellous job in bringing her up but I want my daughter to know who her father is. Her mother says she will tell her who her father is, but does not want a bond. It's not just taking her father away, but his family as well." I felt a pang of sympathy for the woman and an uneasy suspicion that to her position I might well feel the same, but I also had a new awareness that we might both be wrong.

He had come to ask how to establish his claim to share his daughter's childhood. Another unmarried father with a daughter of

22 months urged him to go to court, as he had done, to enforce access to his child. The extraordinary result of his telling his story was that three other men revealed that they, too, were unmarried fathers. Four out of 16 in the room were casualties of the new social acceptability of couples living together.

There was an odd similarity between everyone in the room. Their ages ranged from the early twenties to fifties and although originally FNF was a middle-class group of professional men, most sections of society were represented at the meeting. What they had in common was the baffled grievance of the wrongly accused and a desperate air of being reasonable people. Above all they conveyed the impression of rationality because they have learned to present themselves this way. Whatever the justification, distraught males do not go down well in British courts.

To agreements and oods, one man summed it up. "If a woman is distressed, a court takes her case more seriously. If a man is distressed, he is told to brace up and behave like a man."

Seasoned FNF men find it politic to talk of women with restraint, even courtesy and understanding. Newcomers were less inhibited. Two men diagnosed their wives as

unstable, one as mentally ill. An aggressive and confident man clearly treasured the instances of his wife's unreasonable behaviour, hoped she would give herself away in court and suspects she is being advised by militant feminists. He was advised to keep a diary, detailing his grievances. He already does. It is 40 pages long.

The only way for a woman observer to sit through the session was to suspend judgment. There must be other sides to the bitter stories which were being aired. James made one chivalrous attempt to put forward the female point of view. "These girls feel threatened," he said. "Frightened." It did not go down too well. The fierce-eyed man was furious. "Girls!" he said with disgust. "Look. It's time we stopped pussy-footing around the altar of motherhood."

The amusement which applauded this splendid image did little to mollify him. He is a man denied access to his home and three children. He reverted to his own case. "She has the family home and custody. If I ran off with the children and said, 'She been ever so rotten, I won't go back till you throw her out' - you'd laugh at me." The laughter which did greet that outburst was bitter and sympathetic.

One man who did not smile or

change his expression of awesome gravity throughout was an imposing figure in a brown pin-stripe suit. He spoke for the first time, to me at the end, abruptly and enigmatically. "You bear a lot about battered wives," he said. "You over bear about battered husbands."

Almost all the spare chairs in the corridor had been brought into service. Ten minutes before the room had to be surrendered, people were still arriving. Many were reluctant to abandon a new-found camaraderie and the custom has grown of unofficially reconvening in the nearest pub.

The arrival of so many troubled newcomers to a sparsely advertised meeting was graphic enough evidence of the need FNF. I wondered at the beginning what, apart from the therapy of telling their stories to a sympathetic audience, they hoped to gain.

An endearing fellow with long wispy hair and a coat two sizes too big for him, which once must have belonged to a more flamboyant owner, left a little early. He had got what he came for, plus the names of some partisan solicitors. He had been given the same advice as most - "Go for joint custody."

He looked more determined when he left than when he arrived. Most of them did.

## TALKBACK

### Nothing to forgive

From Gillian Stylian, Isleham, Cambridgeshire  
I write in connexion with the article Forging the Fenwoman written by Dierdre Fernand (Wednesday Page, July 20). I have lived in Isleham for six years and therefore missed the original interest and excitement when *Fenwomen* was published.

Everyone that I have spoken to asserts that Mary Chamberlain was scrupulously fair, that she played back lap\* to those that she interviewed, erasing any remarks at their request. No-one I have spoken to disliked Mary Chamberlain then or now and would accept her return to visit friends with their usual equanimity and good manners. She should by no means "stay clear of the Post Office" where the postmistress is a personal friend of hers, certainly not the "curt", dour lady as seen by Dierdre Fernand. It is just because the people of Isleham are so friendly and generous that they were able to collaborate with Mary Chamberlain.

If there is any bitterness at all, it stems from the continuing publicity. Time passes and situations change. Couples with a growing family do not wish to be constantly reminded of things they said, even voluntarily, about their sexual habits in 1972. What was true then is not necessarily true now. Even quiet articles, such as this one by Dierdre Fernand, prolong the idea of the Fenwoman as belonging to some harsh, hard-bitten, unforgiving race.

Now they read that a play has opened at the Royal Court Theatre based on the book and called *Fen*.

Where will it all end?

### Knight errant

From John Fairchild, Hitchin, Herts.

An appositive pun for Lady Wynne-Jones (Wednesday Page, July 27) would be a "Rusheen of blood to the head". As one of the designers of that development inappropriately and inaccurately described as the "Green Giant", I was present at all times during the public inquiry. Her recollections are as fanciful as her guise of "White Knight".

Although she is critical of the timing of the inquiry, convened by circumstances, she makes no mention of the public exhibition held for the two weeks preceding the inquiry.

Lady Wynne-Jones's knowledge of any events or matters, particularly of architecture, are best left to others to decide. If objectors had looked beyond the trees to see the wood, they would have realized the unique facility and place that this development would have provided.

## COMMENT

### Parents' rights: Is the law a ass?

The main outline of the argument in the case of *Gillick v the West Norfolk and Wisbech Area Health Authority and the Department of Health and Social Security* is clear. Mrs Gillick sought a ruling that a DHSS Health Notice of December 1980 - HN (80) 44 - was illegal in that it allowed, or encouraged, doctors to give contraceptive treatment to girls under 16 without the consent of their parents. She lost, but she says that she will appeal.

If Mr Justice Woolf's judgment is to stand, it will become apparent that the courts have greater authority over the wards in their care than has even the most loving and caring of parents over their children. It was argued on Mrs Gillick's behalf against HN (80) 44 first that a doctor offering contraceptive advice or treatment to a girl under 16 was acting contrary to the Sexual Offences Act of 1956, and, secondly, that concealing the nature of such advice or treatment was a breach of the rights of parents.

Obviously, since the matter continues to be in dispute, the law regarding the rights of parents is unclear. The law on the rights of the courts in regard to children in their care is, however, crystal clear. Suffice it to say that any doctor providing contraceptive advice or treatment to a child in wardship without consulting the judge, would, in our opinion, be in severe danger of punishment.

In a leading case - *R v Gyngall* (1893) - it was laid down that wardship was "essentially a parental jurisdiction" and that, in exercising jurisdiction, "every circumstance must be taken into consideration, and the court must do what under the circumstances a wise parent acting for the true interest of the child would or ought to do". In the case of *In re S* (1967) it was laid down that in anything concerning a ward "an important step in the child's life can be taken without the court's consent". In 1976 Mrs Justice Heilbron *In re D*: a minor refused to allow a ward to be sterilized, saying that it was quite clear that "once a child is a ward of court, no important step in the life of that child can be taken without the consent of the court..."

It follows, therefore, that when a court takes on a parental role it will not tolerate any interference with a ward. The provision of contraceptive services without the court's sanction would be a contempt. A judge might, of course, give his permission in a particular case. Again, he might not. But, if he was not told what was being done, he could not arrive at a true judgment. So not to provide him with information relevant to the discharge of his duty would be an offence. Where, in the matter of wardships, now stands HN (80) 44?

The medical profession itself seems at least ambiguous in its attitude to the question at issue. In

its (supposedly) confidential advice to doctors, the General Medical Council states that: "Where a minor requests treatment concerning a pregnancy or contraceptive use, the doctor should have in mind the need to avoid impairing parental responsibility or family stability." The hint here - which is amplified a little later in the same note of guidance - is that if the doctor thinks that "family stability" would be endangered by consulting the parents about contraception, he may proceed on his own discretion.

Nowhere, however, does the GMC's guidance address itself to what is virtually axiomatic - that a girl under the age of consent will not consult the family doctor, but a doctor who does not know her family. The only evidence available on which the doctor may act is, therefore, provided by the child herself. It seems (as Lord Denning might say) plain common sense that the doctor will act according to his own general moral view. If, as in most cases of this kind, he works for a family planning clinic, his natural inclination will be to give the child what she asks for.

It is worth observing, further - and this point has been made by correspondents in letters to *The Times* - that Mr Justice Woolf found against Mrs Gillick partly because he thought it legal and reasonable that a doctor might take the view that "the provision of

contraceptives was in the girl's best interest in protecting her from an unwanted pregnancy and the risk of a sexually transmitted disease..." But could not a girl be tempted to engage in a sexual intercourse if she is certain to avoid pregnancy?

If Mr Justice Woolf is upheld on appeal, however, the fundamental question of the difference in rights between courts and parents remains. Are wards now regarded as being in a more protected position than other children? If so, why? Is the natural parent of a child considered less worthy of being consulted and informed about his (or her) own child than the artificial parent as exemplified by a judge of the Family Division? If so, why? The duty of the court in the case of a child unfortunate enough to have to fall under its protection is to throw an immediate ring of care around its ward. But that, surely, is the daily duty of every responsible parent. As the law - and Mr Justice Woolf's judgment - stands, Mrs Gillick in order to ensure that her daughters are never given contraceptive advice or treatment on the say-so of one doctor, should have them made wards of court.

### Jonathan Cole and Patrick Cosgrave

Jonathan Cole is a barrister and Patrick Cosgrave is an author and journalist.

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## Through the looking glass

Whatever your views on abortion, one of the latest advertisements from the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children showing the outline of a naked woman with glass tummies would they ever have abortions? my well have caught your eye. But did the society realize the full technological implications of the slogan when planning the campaign?

A pregnant woman usually first experiences parental bonding, the merest of human and animal affinity, when she feels her child "kick". But technology is pushing back this experience to a much earlier stage in pregnancy - for both parents - when they see the image of their unborn child on an ultrasound screen.

In medical parlance ultrasound is a "non-invasive" technique. The image is produced by bouncing sound off the foetus, with the shape of the child drawn by pattern in the reflected sound waves without interfering internally with either mother or child, and so the technique is thought to be relatively risk free. But although there seem to

## MEDICAL BRIEFING

be few purely physical effects, judging from the correspondence columns of a recent issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine* the emotional and social implications of ultrasound are far from limited.

The letters provide anecdotal evidence of how parental bonds can be formed by seeing the image of the child - long before any other physical sign is apparent. The most charming letter is from a father who first saw his son at 17 weeks on screen and then proudly showed the pictures to his colleagues.

### Air factor

No one likes humid, close weather - least of all asthmatics who often complain they find the hot sticky days suffocating. So much so that on July 6 and 7, there was an unprecedented leap in the number of people suffering from acute attacks of asthma who had to be admitted to hospital in the Birmingham area. In a 36-hour period, 26 people turned up at the casualty department of East Birmingham Hospital - the peak being reached during a violent thunderstorm - compared with a usual number of two or three a day.

Dr Jon Ayres and his colleagues from the department of thoracic medicine were so stunned by this

extraordinary increase that they wrote to *Lancet* last week. In the meantime, the thunderstorms of last Sunday morning in our time there was no surge in the number of asthmatic attacks.

### MS dispute

A clash of opinion over a new treatment for multiple sclerosis has shattered détente between two national charities, both aiming to sponsor research into the disease. The Multiple Sclerosis Society and Action for Research into Multiple Sclerosis - a splinter group of the former - were never close, according to those involved. However the two groups had begun to meet regularly to discuss areas of mutual interest.

But ARMS's decision to promote high pressure (hyperbaric) oxygen therapy (HBO therapy) for MS suffers in spite of the MS Society's vehement opposition on the grounds

that the therapy hasn't been scientifically proven, has put a stop to these gatherings. The two charities have not met for over six months, and John Walford, the MS Society's general secretary, says they have no plans to do so.

ARMS has now opened four centres for HBO treatment at Dundee, Falmouth, Manchester and Ipswich. Two more, at Letchworth and Exeter, are due to start taking patients this month. The treatment is based on the theory that the symptoms of multiple sclerosis appear when fat globules block the tiny blood vessels which surround nervous tissue, thus starving the nerves of oxygen.

The hope is that an extra supply of oxygen will help overcome the deficiency. Patients therefore breathe pure oxygen for an hour at a time, daily at first and then at less frequent intervals. They do this in a pressure chamber because more oxygen will dissolve in the blood and reach the damaged nerves.

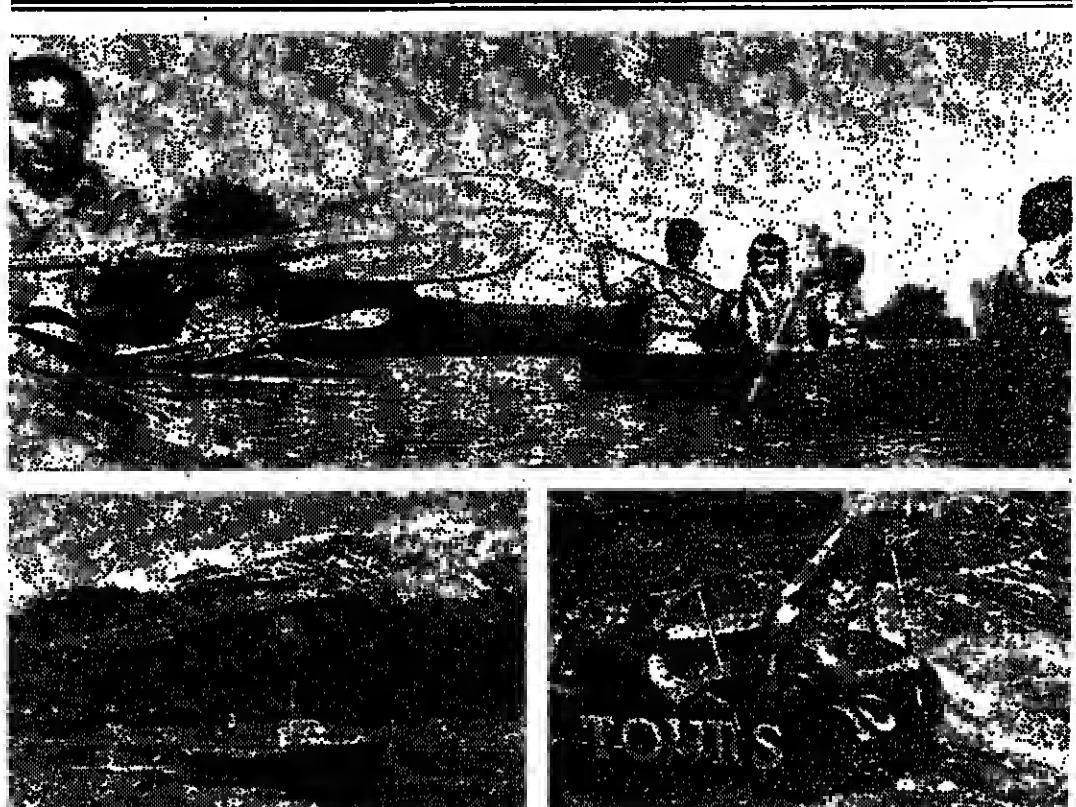
ARM's medical adviser, Dr Phillip James, has treated over 250 patients with HBO at Dundee. He says many show improvement, especially in bladder function. He is convinced that the therapy has benefits.

But the MS Society insists that there is not yet enough evidence on the safety or efficacy of HBO and that the early responsibility is to obtain that information before subjecting patients to the technique.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

## THE TIMES Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES



● ON THE WATER: Seasonal special looks at canoeing for sport and pleasure, a Norwegian coastal cruise, white water rafting in Canada, eating out down by the river and the latest in yachting equipment

● SPORT: Can Alain Prost maintain his lead in the drivers' world championship at the German Grand Prix?



● S.O.S: Campaign to Save Our Seeds  
● FAMILY MONEY: How students can get insurance

Plus

All the news from home and abroad; Drink on Autumn nights; Collecting dolls' houses; Guide to summer festivals; Rock and jazz records of the month; Critics' choice of what's on in the coming week



THE TIMES DIARY

Trade-in

The President of the Board of Trade is alive and well and living in Cecil Parkinson. Thanks be to Sir John Biggs-Davison...

Game attempt

There is now a possibility that Waddingtons, the Monopolyists, will take over BPC. I mean, of course, not Robert Maxwell's British Printing & Communication Corporation...

Off the rails?

In the course of my inquiries into the whereabouts of missing super-market trolleys, I received information from a member of the bar that some of them are serving prison sentences...

Birth of the blues

A pleasing saturation of sponsorship fluttered in my mention of the World Wildlife Fund's project to reestablish the large blue butterfly in this country...

Different strokes

While we await entries for the PHS Sausage competition, here is something for the more artistically inclined. Socialist MEPs have tabled a motion suggesting a competition to design a simple symbol for the European Currency Unit...

Skeleton staff?

Foreign holidays beckon again. Edward Herbert of Oxford received a letter from the manager of a hotel at Tucepti, Yugoslavia, confirming a reservation...

A factory on the Isle of Dogs has fostered a fox. He arrives every morning for breakfast and when the pest control officer comes the fox workers hide him in a broom cupboard...

PHS

Moscow reverses the charges

by Richard Owen

Moscow "The world is full of regional conflicts which might blow up into East-West confrontations at any moment. Central America is becoming a dangerous flashpoint..."

"You see," the Soviet official in Moscow said when told of the incident, "we have nothing to hide..."

provides a useful opportunity for Moscow to pose as the champion of national determination and social progress. It has also become part of the Soviet press's stock catalogue of American misbehaviour around the world...

The Soviet view is a mirror image of Washington's claim that the Soviet Union is fomenting unrest in Central America and that the United States and the Kissinger commission are trying to bring stability...

As in other parts of the world, Russia hopes to reap the propaganda benefit from American discomfort, while stopping short of direct confrontation with the United States...

Privately, some Soviet officials concede that the charge of unwarranted interference whether in Africa, the Middle East or Central America - can be levelled as much against Moscow as against Washington...

Dusty answer for Nyerere's socialism

Once, Tanzania enjoyed something of an economic miracle, but recently things have gone badly wrong, as Charles Harrison reports

Nairobi Economic problems, drought, food shortages and a big rise in crime are making life hard for Tanzanians. With 9 million people and an area of almost 400,000 square miles...



President Nyerere: crackdown on the black marketeers

In the last two years, however, the worst economic crisis in 22 years of independence has coincided with severe drought in some of Tanzania's most productive areas, causing shortages of local foods and export crops...

other towns and sent to work on the land. But this does not prevent their drifting back whenever they get the chance.

family tradition remains strong, and town-dwellers with legitimate jobs there will do their best to find employment in the towns for their country cousins.

The villagers have not provided the hoped-for increase in farm output because the collective system does not encourage individual initiative. The same problem affects many of Tanzania's industries, where output is low.

Theoretically, the strong party system in Tanzania, with its basic framework of "10 cell" units (under which every 10 households have a political or party leader) should ensure that the urban drift does not get out of hand. But the African

The economic problems have created a substantial black market. In a campaign earlier this year against so-called economic saboteurs, hundreds of traders and others were arrested for alleged

before it advances Soviet interests wherever it can, by fair means or foul, preferably in the west where the United States regards as its natural sphere of influence. On the other hand the Russians are adept at judging how far to go, and are undoubtedly behind Castro's offer to pull Cuban advisers out of Central America in order to achieve a "peaceful settlement"...

In the end, Moscow hopes to win as many friends through diplomacy as through arms supplies of the kind which may or may not be the Aleksandr Ulyanov. The Soviet armed forces, bogged down in a guerrilla war of their own in Afghanistan, do not want military involvement in a conflict of miles from home. Red Star, the armed forces newspaper, this week said the situation in Central America had almost reached a point of no return...

But Red Star also added that regional peace could not be achieved through the use of military force, and that "all sober-minded people" were in favour of a negotiated solution. That careful afterthought offers a clue to the thinking of a leadership which is used to parceling out weapons and moral support to "national liberation movements" while calculating where its national interests lie.

George Walden On your bikes at the top

Immobility of labour is a very British disease. If things are improving, it is not by force of example from above. One of the most stagnant areas of British life is at the apex where business, the senior Civil Service and politics should meet...

The problems are deeply embedded in an apartheid mentality, and the inhibitions to mobility are formidable. The self-conscious neutrality of the Civil Service, although it had undergone an irreversible political vasectomy - is a major factor. But above all there is the fierce British attachment to security.

Some existential philosophers maintain that all life is directed towards death - a dismal notion, but well illustrated by some British attitudes in the 1960s and 1970s. As a country, we seemed anxious to get ourselves into a comfortable, recumbent position to await the future. This emphasis on ease and security is in depressing contrast to our national history. It takes many forms: we invest in property, not industry; we stick to steady careers; we have a vast interlocking system of state-subsidized safety nets which are a heavy disincentive to risk-taking...

This superannuation psychology is specific to us, and has a lot to do with our system. Healthy Americans and Frenchmen do not go around calculating their pension entitlements: they are too busy thinking of ways to make money. The only place I have noticed such a keen focus on life after professional death is in the Soviet Union, where release from a career in the state bureaucracy must be sweet indeed. Preoccupation with security pre-empted movement, especially from the Civil Service. It should be normal for an ambitious official to move into private or nationalized industry, then into politics and finally, perhaps, into No 10 or 11. It does happen abroad, but not here, where one move is seen as adventurous, and two or more as rash or "careerist".

We have a splendid Civil Service. But in our new national circumstances it can be kept healthy only by constant pruning and by transplanting cuttings into the world outside. As the going gets rough, and disagreeable decisions have to be taken, the attractions of official neutrality increase. Greater mobility could help to overcome some of the prejudices in Whitehall about commerce and Parliament. But on this theme, I refer the reader to Sir John Hoskyns' brilliant critique, Whitehall and Westminster: an Outsider's View.

Material disincentives to mobility are overwhelming. Senior civil servants are now tolerably well paid; they are virtually irremovable; they coast up incremental scales pretty well irrespective of performance; and they retire on indexed pensions, coked out by a directorship or two, and solaced by a knighthood or some lesser honour.

Why contemplate the brutalities and uncertainties of life in business or politics, especially when times are hard - which is, of course, precisely when such mobility is most needed? And if anyone does risk a move, he will be cautioned in writing that he has no right to reinstatement. To bring back into the Civil Service people with experience of business or politics would ruffle the surface of the Whitehall mill pond.

There is a price to be paid for greater mobility. We would run the risk of a little more political jobbery, and a good deal less security. But as Aristotle observed, we are most virtuous when asleep. And the greatest security is that of the grave. The author, Conservative MP for Buckingham, is a former member of the Diplomatic Service who spent a year of ENA in the early 1970s.

Philip Howard

A beastly bird in Notting Hill

I wish that I had Gilbert White's eye for the birds, so that when I was observing that owls fly buoyantly as though they are short of ballast, I could be reflecting sentimentally on the modification of the house-martin. But those of us who are as blind as bats and wear contact lenses have difficulty in telling a hawk from a bedge-sparrow, let alone a handswaw.

The sage of Selborne was splendidly sharp-eyed and unselfish about his feathered friends. Give him half a chance, and he was procuring a cuckoo and cutting open the breastbone to examine the interesting state of its crop.

I am no bird-man. But I did twitter a bit the other day when our resident Gilbert White on the back page observed in his Nature Notes that the only birds singing steadily now, apart from the indefatigable wren, are the corn bunting and yellow hammer. I don't know what it is like down in darkest Selborne. But up here in the leafy groves of Notting Hill Gate the dawn chorus is deafening.

In particular there is one bird that gives a harsh squawk as soon as dawn pokes a rosy finger over the golden domes and minarets of Bayswater, and carries on with a blood-curdling chirring, like the sound track. I suppose, of these new things to the popular newspapers called video nasties, I did not mind too much at first. I am always pleased to listen to the news on the BBC Overseas Service, by a million kilometres the best news and commentary on the newspapers that the BBC puts out either on radio or television. And I assumed that the screacher was giving an alarm call to warn his friends about Pyrrhus and other predatory neighbourhood cats.

But the screacher is so evil, so blood-thirsty, and so prolonged that I have got it into my sleepy head that what the screacher is doing is

I know civil servants who should be running private or nationalised industries at the age of 40. Instead they are handing paper up endless chains of command, losing vigour and ambition in the process. If they do feel an urge to know more about industry, they can take advantage of one of the risk-free "interchange schemes" where officials pretend to be businessmen or bankers for short periods, with pay, increments and pension intact. Some officials would make excellent politicians, but feel disinclined to exchange the safe respectability of the Civil Service for politics, with its less rarified atmosphere and guaranteed job insecurity.

Moving from business into the Civil Service is even rarer. Some senior businessmen would make excellent permanent secretaries, but that would be an unthinkable breach of the present monopoly. To get a really top man, you might also have to pay him more; also an unthinkable piece of flexibility on which the Civil Service unions and Treasury would have inflexible views.

This immobility does us a lot of damage. It preserves antique suspicions between the three groups. It means that there is a lack of sympathy, or even direct knowledge of what each of them is about. And it limits cross-fertilization. The net loss is to the nation, which, like all countries, has a limited stock of talent.

In France it is thought desirable that senior civil servants, diplomats, leaders of private and public industries and presidents should be professional, numerate and cultivated people. So they have a competition to select the best; they train and examine them rigorously at the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA); and they then give them top jobs in accordance with the results (the Cabinet system opening the way into politics).

This may seem distasteful to the fastidiously fair-minded Englishman. But look at the quality of the product. Or nationalized industry, business administration and diplomacy to local government, the *corvaces* range ambitiously around the French establishment, helped by a powerful old boys' network, whose vindication lies in the ability of the boys in question.

We have plenty of quality of our own. How can we make better use of it and aerate life at the top? Not by importing foreign models. But now that egalitarianism is on the defensive, we could create our own version of ENA, jointly run and funded perhaps by the Government, the CBI and the universities. (The trade unions also could join in only if they propelled themselves into the twentieth century first.)

We also need to relax the neurotically tight barriers between the Civil Service and politics. The maintenance of sensible pay differentials between business and government service, the Confucian principle that business exists to make money and the Civil Service to enjoy relatively safe and reasonably paid employment, would help too. And finally pension schemes must be made interchangeable, so that they do not loom quite so large in everyone's professional life.

Will this love story have a happy ending?

The blurb for one of Betty Trask's last novels, *And Confidential*, describes the plot as revealing how "the evil purpose of a dead woman's will affected the lives and emotions of whole families."



Some of the Trask titles

Margaret Elizabeth Trask's purpose was to leave a legacy to the Society of Authors to fund an annual prize for an author under 35 "on the strength of a romantic novel or other ovel of a traditional rather than experimental nature". Nevertheless, her legacy is now affecting the lives and emotions of the whole literary establishment.

Tom Maschler, chairman of Jonathan Cape, and instrumental in setting up the prestige Booker-McConnell prize, said: "The Booker was designed to have an impact infinitely greater than any other literary prize. Then along comes this other prize offering more money but with much dumber conditions of entry. The point of the Booker is to help literature. Who needs to help romantic novelists? If they are any good at all, they'll make a lot of money anyway."

Two months on, it looks as if the Trask prize might not be much bigger than the Booker after all. This week's *Publishing News*, the gossipy and informative trade magazine for the publishing industry, estimates that the Trask might be reduced to a fairly workmanlike £12,500 annually.

Mark Le Fanu, general secretary of the Society of Authors, explained: "We are setting up a trust which has to be approved by the Charity Commissioners. This probably will not produce an income of more than £25,000 a year. Under the terms of the bequest, unpublished novels are allowed to be entered and this may mean a large entry, giving rise to heavy administrative costs. We will probably appoint five judges and because of the estimated large entry, they will have to be paid more than the £1,000 given to the Booker judges who have the rather less difficult job of reading books already in print and chosen by publishers as being the best on their lists."

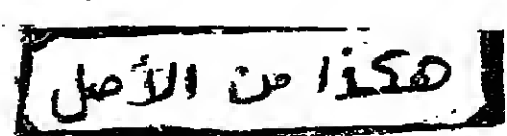
Another unkind cut, literally, is that prizes, like the Booker, which require entries to be submitted by publishers, are tax-free whereas those, like the Trask, which require authors to submit their own works, are usually taxed. So though the Trask prize, which may be awarded for the first time next year, will be substantial, it is now unlikely to put the winner in the same financial class as a bestselling author.

Even so, it will give romantic novelists more than they now get in the way of literary prizes, which are now largely confined to those offered by the Romantic Novelists Association. The association's major prize is a small cup returnable at the end of the year - while its Netta

than the Booker-McConnell which is presented amid much excitement and televised razzmatazz. The Booker organizers deny that the Trask poses any serious threat but might be prepared to increase the value of their own prize should events prove otherwise.

Even so, it will give romantic novelists more than they now get in the way of literary prizes, which are now largely confined to those offered by the Romantic Novelists Association. The association's major prize is a small cup returnable at the end of the year - while its Netta

Penny Perrick







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## POWER ABHORS A VACUUM

Anyone who merely looks at a map and measures distances may think that France has gained a great deal of land. But land must be measured not only by its extent but by its value. What France has gained is what agriculturalists call "very light land". That is to say, it is the desert of Sahara.

That was how the great Lord Salisbury explained to his peers one of those agreements among European statesmen which, in the 1890s, led to the drawing of frontiers in West and Equatorial Africa. It probably never crossed his mind that some of those frontiers would one day become those of something called the Republic of Chad. But he would surely recognize that considerations which lead the statesmen of today, in Paris, Washington and Moscow, to concern themselves with the destiny of that country.

Salisbury was not too worried about giving France a free hand in what is now Chad, but it was a different story when Captain Marchand and his little band appeared at Fashoda on the Nile. Europe nearly went to war over that incident, because whoever is on the Nile can threaten Egypt, and whoever controlled Egypt could cut Britain's communications with her Indian empire.

Independence came in 1960, and the French troops patrolling the northern wastes began to look an anachronism - seen at least, from Paris and from meetings of the Organization of African Unity. To the tribesmen of the north the combination of continued French presence with southern (black) political ascendancy seemed the worst of both worlds.

Today some of the rules and

some of the players have changed, but the game remains the same. Indeed Chad might almost have been invented by a satirist in order to caricature the follies and absurdities of imperialism. Vietnam and El Salvador are at least real countries inhabited by real nations, whose right to self-determination and democracy can be championed with a straight face. But how does one explain to a sceptical Congress the sending of military equipment, and then military advisers, to defend freedom in a country that has never been anything more than an area on the map?

Two thirds of Chad's vast area is arid and mountainous, and remained under military administration throughout the French colonial period.

Militarily the black *évolués* were no match for the northern tribesmen, and France could find no way of "pacifying" the north, short of reimposing direct French rule which no one, in Paris or elsewhere, was prepared to contemplate. The usual expedients were tried: civilian president overthrown by southern general; rebels split by making one of them (Mr Hissène Habré) prime minister under southern president; finally hand-over to a motley coalition of northerners and southerners under another former rebel leader (Mr Goukouni Oueddei). But then inevitably the former rebels fell out among themselves, with the forces of Mr Goukouni (nominally president) and those of Mr Habré (nominally defence minister) fighting each other in the capital.

France at that point had washed her hands of the affair

and it was Colonel Gaddafi, formerly the rebels' chief backer, who stepped in at the end of 1980 to arbitrate in favour of Mr Goukouni. Neighbouring states, and France, were unhappy about this Libyan occupation, but mostly willing to accept Mr Goukouni if he could be separated from his Libyan backing. In October 1981 the new French Socialist government persuaded him to send the Libyans home (by falsely warning him, Colonel Gaddafi now claims, that Libya was about to overthrow his government). An OAU force was mustered to replace the Libyans, but was not prepared to fight for Mr Goukouni when Mr Habré, starting from Sudan, staged a comeback.

And so in 1982 Mr Habré reinstalled himself in Ndjamena, draped in the colours of the free world. Mr Goukouni, now trying his luck once again with Libyan support, is inevitably seen as fighting Moscow's corner, and indeed has received the blessing of the Soviet media.

France is doing its best, short of committing troops, for Mr Habré, but Libya has raised the stakes by bombing Mr Habré's forces in the town of Faya-Largeau. The time has come, it seems, for Uncle Sam to take a direct hand. Superpowers suffer from the *horror vacui*: they do not concede space to a rival even when that space is worthless in itself. Yet Lord Salisbury's wisdom would surely be worth pondering before Washington involves itself further.

Meanwhile, Lord Salisbury's successors have appointed a new British ambassador to Chad, Mr Michael Daly. "Mr Daly will be based in London." That seems a very good place for him to be.

## A BIAS TO BE CORRECTED

It is a healthy sign that some speakers at the Vancouver assembly of the World Council of Churches are questioning its apparently uncritical attitude to the persecution of religious believers in the countries of the Soviet block. The Council has a reputation for bias in its treatment of world affairs; attacking the United States, South Africa and other "capitalist" states; supporting "anti-colonialist" guerrilla movements in Latin America and Africa but doing little about the violation of human rights in communist countries.

That reputation has not always been justified. The position of believers in communist states is a complex one in which some degree of compromise with the authorities is the only way of ensuring the survival of an established church. There is much to be said for the diplomatic approach: certainly delegates from churches existing under Soviet domination cannot all be dismissed as little more than obedient servants of an atheist regime.

Maintaining contacts between East and West is important; priests' delegations are able to help overcome restrictions on the delivery of bibles and other religious literature; they encourage the discussion of moral and

spiritual values in a technological age marked by growing agnosticism. Indeed, the revival of religious belief in communist lands demonstrates that scientific materialism is not the inevitable path for mankind that its propagators claim. The visit of Pope John Paul II to Poland made this clear.

Yet delegates to the World Council do not restrict themselves to spiritual matters. They make political statements and provide material support to overtly political movements, including some that are associated with terrorist methods. For the sake of balance and credibility they should be prepared to give public support to their persecuted brethren in Eastern Europe and the USSR. A member of the central committee of the World Council of Churches has now led the way by submitting that there should be "the same self-examination coming from Eastern Europe" as already exists in the West.

There is, of course, a risk that the USSR would simply withdraw its representation as it did from the World Psychiatric Association when publicly criticized. In Albania, which has minimal links with the outside world, all religion is illegal and has suffered the harshest of persecution. But for the USSR

and its allies trade with the West and spreading political influence are important; they do not lightly surrender a useful propaganda forum.

Publicity plays a vital role in protecting persecuted believers. While the World Council of Churches pursues its policy of quiet diplomacy, in the USSR alone the number of well-documented cases of Christians imprisoned for practising their religion has increased to over four hundred. Muslims, Buddhists and Jews have been no better treated. In Hungary and East Germany the position of believers is easier, but in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Romania many of those most active in promulgating their beliefs have suffered imprisonment.

For the persecuted in communist countries the seeming indifference of the World Council of Churches to their fate is a cause of great bitterness. They regard it as another propaganda victory for those such as Vladimir Kuroedov, the atheist head of the USSR's Council for Religious Affairs, who maintain that freedom of conscience is guaranteed while promoting atheism in every way possible. It is indeed time for delegates at Vancouver to reassess their position.

## DISTRIBUTABLE PROFITS

Administrative difficulties are being put forward by the electricity supply industry as the main reason why its customers should not receive a rebate from the £332 million net profit that was made in the last financial year.

At the time when computers simplify the sending out of quarterly bills and do so with impressive regularity it must be possible for the area electricity boards to find a way of equitably redistributing the profits that have been made in excess of targets set by the Government. However, the more sophisticated objections put forward by the board can, on detailed analysis and on cost effective grounds, be accepted. The problem of tracing customers who have contributed to these profits and have since moved address is among them.

What is less acceptable is that the electricity supply industry will decide shortly on whether its customers should face a rise in prices next year, not on the basis of its own efficiency which has clearly been improved, but on the inefficiency of another

nationalized industry, the National Coal Board.

The electricity industry in Britain is the largest user of coal in the western world. It takes two-thirds of the output of the NCB and last year burned 79 million tonnes in its power stations. In addition government subsidies are paid to the electricity industry for not invoking contractual arrangements it made in past years to bring in Australian coal at a price cheaper than that produced by the NCB. This costs the Government £50m a year and six million tonnes of Australian coal is in stock.

Negotiations will begin soon between the generating sector of the electricity industry and the NCB on how much coal it will buy in the coming year and at what price. A previous loose agreement is likely to be rejected by the electricity industry in what will become tough negotiations.

Sadly, whatever the outcome the taxpayer will pay for the inefficiency of the coal industry, but at least the electricity industry's efficiency should be

reflected in its own pricing policy. For that reason alone no rise in electricity prices should be made in the foreseeable future.

As well as being a sign of good faith towards domestic consumers a price freeze would be of substantial benefit to industry, which in many cases was persuaded to switch its primary energy source to electricity in the early seventies when the settlement of the miners' dispute was followed by the hope that a revitalized coal industry would be able to supply the power stations with their raw material at an economic price.

Cheaper coal would lead to the electricity generating industry speeding its programme of reconverting to coal the coal-fired stations which now run on oil. The NCB would be able to take more advantage of its low-cost pits, and opposition to the closure of high-cost pits by the unions might be less strident if they were faced with the prospect of an expanding coal industry. On that, if not yet on a pricing policy, those who manage the two industries can agree.

## Building Society funds

From Mr Brian Phillips  
Sir, Your City Editor's comment on Saturday, July 23, made the point that wholesale funds are more expensive for building societies than retail funds and that home buyers will have to pay the price.

This view does not correspond with experience to date. In August, 1980, the Building Societies' Association Working Group on Marketable Securities reported that whole-

sale funds for the three-year period to July 1980, would have cost no more than retail funds and that certificates of deposit, which societies may now issue, would have cost less than retail money. At the present time building society CDs represent good value for money when compared with the cost of retail products.

The position could, of course, change in the future. However, experience to date is such that wholesale markets have contributed

substantial net funds to support the housing market at less cost than net retail money.

The home buyer has benefited on both counts.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN PHILLIPS,  
General Manager (Finance & Management Services)  
Nationwide Building Society,  
New Oxford House,  
High Holborn, WC1,  
July 25.

## Facts and deeds in Nicaragua

From Mr Cranley Onslow, MP for Woking (Conservative)

Sir, I am reluctant to be drawn into current discussions on events in Central America, but I cannot let pass the article by James Curran in *The Times* of August 3 about Nicaragua without offering some balancing comments.

To form a judgment about the future nature of the Nicaraguan regime it is necessary to look at facts and deeds. Nicaragua has indeed received aid and financial support from the West since the 1979 revolution. Mr Curran should also have pointed out that the United States was the first and largest contributor to the new Government's efforts to rebuild their economy, providing nearly \$25m in emergency aid in 1979 and \$119m in economic aid in the following year.

Mr Curran quotes an all-party British Parliamentary delegation in praise of Nicaragua. He should have pointed out also that this delegation was a private venture. He should also have pointed out that in their report this delegation urged the Government of Nicaragua to relax press censorship, to maintain its plan to hold elections in 1985, to relax restrictions on opposition political parties and to stop harassment of political opponents.

He could also have quoted the recommendation of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Commons that every effort be made to dissuade Nicaragua from direct or indirect intervention in the affairs of other Central American states. I hope those recommendations will be heeded, but the present evidence of developments in Nicaragua is not encouraging.

Of course, Nicaragua should be allowed to live in peace. But the Nicaraguan regime should give the same chance to its neighbours to develop towards peace and democracy without the constant threat of a "revolution without frontiers" encouraged and supported by Nicaragua with the backing of other Powers.

I am, Sir, etc.,  
CRANLEY ONSLOW,  
House of Commons,  
August 3.

## Charity statistics

From the Director of the Charities Aid Foundation

Sir, This year's charity statistics reveal some very interesting things. The recent and very understandable decline in company giving to charity has reversed. In 1982 companies gave 7 per cent more in real terms, despite comparable falls in pre-tax profits and numbers of employees. This is therefore a remarkable and generous turnaround and reflects perhaps the growing awareness amongst, particularly, company chairmen of the need to provide community support.

Equally interesting are the patterns revealed about central and local government giving. To start with, if one takes, as we did, the biggest 200 charities, only about 80 received such state support. It is not clear on what basis the selection is made but a breakdown of it reveals that whilst 70 per cent went to social welfare charities, only three per cent went to environmental charities. Of the state support to charities concerned with social welfare nearly half went to physically handicapped and only one per cent to the elderly or mentally ill.

Some of these figures seem so astonishing that one is forced to ask questions about whether government knows what proportion of taxpayers' money is being spent on which parts of the voluntary sector. It is very encouraging to note that the value of covenants as a whole has risen dramatically. This will, no doubt, be music to the ears of the last Chancellor of the Exchequer, who introduced the shorter period for covenants and also the concessions to higher-rate taxpayers.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL BROPHY, Director,  
Charities Aid Foundation,  
48 Pembury Road,  
Tonbridge,  
Kent.

## Scottish salmon stocks

From Mr G. D. F. Hadoke

Sir, The Atlantic Salmon Trust agrees wholeheartedly with the views of the Scottish salmon position as expressed by Sir Andrew Gilchrist in his letter of July 25. It would appear that the 1983 catches to date suggest a further decline in the number of fish available for spawning.

The trust has long urged on Government departments and other authorities concerned with the development of Atlantic salmon the need for better management of the resource and has for some time suggested that the example of Iceland is one that we should follow.

As a starting point the trust proposed a national salmon policy which recommended, inter alia, the prohibition of drift netting and the use of monofilament nets and has supported a suggestion for the licensing of all sales of salmon. The last proposal has now been replaced for England and Wales by the National Water Council's suggestion for a salmon-tagging scheme which has been designed to curb the disposal of illegally caught salmon.

Unless the United Kingdom is prepared to accept a national salmon policy for the entire country and to propose a comprehensive management plan for our salmon resource it seems to the trust that its importance will continue to decline.

Yours faithfully,  
GERALD HADOKÉ, Director,  
The Atlantic Salmon Trust Ltd,  
41 Downing Street,  
Farnham,  
Surrey,  
July 28.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### No retrenchment on South Bank

From Mr Tony Banks

Sir, Mr Denison wrote on July 27 on the South Bank's concert halls and the Barbican, but he is mistaken in his analysis of the facts and therefore wide of the mark in his proposed solution.

He refers to a glum prospect ahead for the great band of music lovers who remember with pride civic leaders who brought these buildings into being. He decries a wasteful conglomeration of not too distinguished musical events; he proposes more planning and a discreet retrenchment in the number of concerts.

There is, alas, no great band of London music lovers. The South Bank concert halls' total audiences for classical music are about 800,000 per annum and our latest research indicates this probably consists of about 175,000 people going about five times a year each. This is not a great percentage of some 6 million residents of the GLC area, let alone of the residents of the Home Counties or of visitors to London.

There is no diminution now, nor will there be in the future, of the splendid musical performances given at the South Bank concert halls, but audiences have declined over the last five years through the economic climate and the poor marketing of concerts.

The South Bank concert halls have 4,350 seats per night to sell and the arrival of the Barbican has added 2,000 seats a night. This greatly increased capacity is searching for a serious London classical music audience of perhaps only 250,000 people.

The civic leaders who brought these great halls into being with public money wanted them to have excellent standards, but would not want to see them half empty as they are now. There must be much better marketing of concerts so that they compete strongly with going to the cinema and theatre, going out to dinner or staying at home with hi-fi or video.

The halls must become busy centres of excellence for several

different kinds of music without endangering the quality or number of performances of the best classical music. The halls can achieve these objectives by their own skills and those of the orchestras and commercial promoters. There should be adequate consultative machinery through the London Orchestral Concert Board.

There is no reason why every concert should be "distinguished" and any proposition for retrenchment could only cause significant losses to both halls and orchestras alike and be a dangerous threat to levels of employment. The South Bank concert halls' audiences are derived substantially from the middle-aged upper class; this is an unhealthy narrow base. We are not doing enough for other groups who should not be written off as musically illiterate.

Far from retrenchment I seek wider audiences, learning to enjoy good music, through feeling welcome both at the concert and at the halls. Our new open foyer policy at the Festival Hall is attracting to our exhibitions, our foyer music, our bars and our buffets over 20,000 non-concert goers a week; our concert goers average 18,000 a week.

If we can turn five per cent of our open foyer visitors into twice-a-year concert goers we will have retrieved the 100,000 seat sales lost in the last two years.

I am already discussing with major orchestras and promoters ideas for better marketing; we have an average of 1,000 seats unsold every night at the Festival Hall alone. We cannot expect central or local government to meet annual increases in substantial subsidies, if they are only for the benefit of a decreasing band of cognoscenti. A great musical centre must seek to educate and enrich and get a wider audience hooked on classics.

Yours faithfully,  
TONY BANKS, Chairman,  
Arts and Recreation Committee,  
Greater London Council,  
Members' Lobby,  
The County Hall, SE1,  
August 2.

### British Gas profits

From Mr W. G. Jewers

Sir, I refer to recent letters from Lady Burton (July 29) and Mr Alex Henney (August 1) about energy prices. Contrary to the 50 per cent real rise in electricity prices mentioned by Mr Alex Henney, gas prices are no higher now in real terms than they were 10 years ago, despite the fact that the cost of North Sea gas to the corporation has more than doubled in real terms.

Our current cost operating profit of £663m is certainly large by most standards, but not when seen against the scale of the gas business, which had a turnover last year of nearly £3bn and has assets worth at current cost nearly £12bn. Our capital investment programme amounts to over £4bn at out-turn prices over the next five years. Our aim is to self-finance this expenditure and avoid the burden of interest charges.

Moreover, our retained profit last year was £188m (£144m the year before), after providing for £524m in gas levy, £208m in corporation and other taxes, and writing off the £295m book value of the oil assets the Government is taking from the corporation.

No one, least of all British Gas, liked the difficulties caused to our customers by the gas price increases, the last of which was in October, 1982. But there will have been no increase at all in the year to October, 1983, and, if we are to avoid a repetition of the previous three

years, it is essential that prices do not lag behind our costs again.

Yours faithfully,  
W. G. JEWERS,  
Managing Director, Finance,  
British Gas Corporation,  
Rivermill House,  
152 Grosvenor Road, SW1.

From Mr Martin E. Simons

Sir, A main reason for huge profit increases at British Gas is that the corporation follows Government instruction and makes handsome inflation-adjusted returns on its assets. Fixed assets have been upvalued by British Gas by much more than has been customary in British industry who have eliminated ancient assets from the books.

It is ludicrous that fuel, energy and telecommunications prices continue to increase more than costs and that the nationalized sector fuels inflation.

One reason why the service sector is apparently growing so rapidly is its monopoly or near-monopoly power, and the spur to inflation from service costs, including banking and the professions, has been clearly discernible not only in the United Kingdom but in Canada and elsewhere.

It is time that Government revised the financial targets it has set for nationalized industries which are monopolies and encouraged the Office of Fair Trading in its efforts to improve competition.

Yours faithfully,  
MARTIN E. SIMONS,  
24 Grandard Avenue, SW15.

### Peace in Middle East

From Mr J. Stebbing

Sir, Your leading article of July 23 about the Israeli-Palestinian situation concluded by saying that "the world should stand back a little and let raw facts do their work on local minds".

May I draw attention to two raw facts that threaten the peace of all the peoples of the Middle East? First, the West Bank settlements. These have increased the Jewish population from 800 in 1972 to 16,200 at the end of 1981 and about 25,000 today. Taken with the Palestinian population of 707,300 (in 1981), the Jewish total is now about 3.4 per cent. If Israeli settlers reach the projected total of 100,000 by 1987, their percentage of total West Bank population will not exceed 12 per cent unless there are massive deportations of Palestinians.

Second, the adjoining Northern District of Israel itself. Here the Israelis comprise only a little over 51 per cent of the total population and for 15 of the last 18 years many more Jews have left the region than have come to settle in it. A small, favourable population balance has been recorded in the last three years, but this amounts to a very small proportion of past losses. But the

non-Jewish net reproduction rate is nearly double that of the Israelis; the age distribution is also greatly in favour of the non-Jewish inhabitants.

Strenuous efforts are now being made by the Israeli settlement authorities to stabilise and increase the Israeli population in the Northern District.

New, carefully designed agro-industrial settlements and some purely industrial settlements are being established; but these are not yet on a scale which will make any significant impact on the present delicate population balance. Funds for new Israeli settlements in the Northern District are restricted by the priority given to all possible expenditure on the West Bank.

The policy of increasing Israeli populations in the West Bank, where the prospect of achieving a settled community is so very unfavourable, instead of improving the deteriorating population balance in the Northern District within Israel itself, must be unsound and increasingly dangerous to all the peoples of the region.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN STEBBING,  
Fair Beeches,  
Burcot, nr Abingdon,  
Oxfordshire,  
July 25.

### The Elgin Marbles

From Mr Max Hebditch

Sir, The International Council of Museums, meeting in general assembly in London yesterday, did not pass a resolution supporting the claim by the Greek Government for the return of the Elgin Marbles, as your Arts Correspondent appears to suggest (August 3).

The resolution adopted by ICOM was much more general. It committed ICOM to advising the Unesco Intergovernmental Committee examining this issue, to providing information, and to evaluating the needs of countries which have lost a significant part of their cultural heritage.

While sympathetic to the needs of museums in some countries to acquire material related to aspects of their culture unrepresented in their collections ICOM has not sought to become involved in specific issues.

### Fear for Gibraltar dockyard

From Mr M. B. Martin

Sir, The article by your Defence Correspondent (July 28) on the Government announcement of the revised closure date for the Royal Navy Dockyard at Gibraltar failed to inform your readers of the grave situation now confronting the Rocks.

The Transport and General Workers' Union represents 80 per cent of the working population of Gibraltar. Nine hundred dockyard employees will be made redundant by the closure. Only 300 will be initially re-employed in the new commercial ship-repair yard under the management of A & P Appledore and there is no estimate as to how many dockyard-related jobs will go, in particular in the service sector.

The Government hopes that, if Appledore prospers, more of those out of work will be re-employed. We believe that optimism to be misplaced. An unpublished assessment by Michael Casey, formerly of British Shipbuilders, casts doubts on Appledore's forecasts. The new yard will have to struggle for survival in a highly competitive world market within a few miles of the rapidly expanding facilities at Algeciras.

Those lucky enough to keep their jobs will suffer also. Taxation will have to rise to in excess of 50 per cent of income to sustain large numbers of unemployed in a small community.

The £28m being provided to the Gibraltar authorities to meet the initial costs of conversion has been tied to "assurances on new working practices". That gives the game away; the Government knows that the new commercial operation will face enormous problems. Competitiveness is to be achieved by first: slashing the workforce and then the wages of those who stay.

Public money will, therefore, be used to undercut yards in Britain by introducing South Korean pay and terms and conditions for local Crown servants. What price 400 years' service to the Navy?

The Government may be abandoning its responsibilities to Gibraltar; this union will not. We argue for the only practical alternative; continued dockyard management by the Ministry of Defence with some dockyard facilities used for private work to reduce the overhead costs.

The yard is strategically placed with a skilled, dedicated and experienced workforce. We are for developing its potential. What the Government is doing is jeopardising the future of both the yard and Gibraltar's people.

Yours sincerely,  
M. B. MARTIN, National Secretary,  
Public Services Group,  
Transport and General Workers' Union,  
Transport House,  
Smith Square, SW1,  
August 1.

### A tiger's leap

From his Honour Judge G. B. Best

Sir, I was surprised to read in the report in today's *Times* of the trial of Howlett and Port Lymnec Estates the assertion that no tiger had ever been known to jump as high as the 10ft. 2in high security fence. This may be true of the Siberian variety but not of the Indian.

In *Shikar Notes for Novices*, by the Hon J. W. Best, published by the Pioneer Press, Allahabad, one may read at page 30 in the thirteenth edition:

At Khondra in Bilaspur in the year 1910 a man was dragged from a position in a tree seventeen feet from the ground and killed by a wounded tiger. Shortly after the incident I was shown the tree and the place where the man sat.

My father's evidence, were he alive today, would, of course, be hearsay and I doubt whether an eye witness survived, but so far as these matters can be recorded, there it is.

Yours etc.  
GILES BEST,  
Piccombe,  
Little Bredy,  
Nr Dorchester,  
Dorset,  
July 30.

### Parental consent

From Mrs Carole Chapman

Sir, Your correspondents write comparing the medical niceties of prescribing contraceptives to minors with those of operating, or giving injections, without parental consent. But it is not only on medical grounds that comparisons can be made.

Should my daughter, on becoming 16 years of age, wish to enter a stable, long sexual relationship through marriage, the law will not permit it without my consent.

Should she, however, at only 14, wish to enter an unstable, transient sexual relationship, the law will allow her contraceptives to assist the liaison, not only without my consent, but without my knowledge. Where is the logic of that?

Yours faithfully,  
CAROLE CHAPMAN,  
2 Sanders Drive,  
Colchester,  
Essex,  
August 1.

### A day to remember

From Mr Christopher Derrick

Sir, We are rapidly approaching the millionth day *ab Urbe condita*. On a rough count, we'll reach it in or around 1985.

It will call for a big celebration. Are the arrangements for this well in hand? Or has nobody noticed? Italian Embassy to note; also the Apostolic Pro-Nunciature and the Virgil Society.

Yours sincerely,  
CHRISTOPHER DERRICK,  
25 Park Hill Road,  
Wallington,  
Surrey,  
July 29.







صكيات الأصل

Fall of 1.9 cents may be one-off adjustment

Pound crashes below \$1.50 as markets switch gaze to sterling

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The pound crashed below the \$1.50 level for the first time in four months early yesterday and fell sharply against European currencies and the yen as the foreign exchange markets, wary of central bank intervention elsewhere, turned their gaze on sterling.

The British authorities have made it clear that they see no reason for interest rates to rise to combat dollar strength, nor have they joined in the concerted intervention by other central banks.

The dollar gained nearly one penny to DM2.67 in London and was moving up swiftly in early New York trading, boosted by talk that Mr Albert Wojnilower, chief economist of the First Boston investment bank, was predicting significantly higher US interest rates by the end of the year.

Intervention continued yesterday, though on a lesser scale than earlier in the week, with the central banks of Germany, Japan, France and Switzerland noted in the market. The Bank of England was also said to be steady, the pound at around \$1.4850, in line with its normal practice of smoothing excessive fluctuations.

The pound ended the day in London nearly 2 cents down at \$1.4875. Its trade-weighted index lost 0.9 to 84.0.

The drop in the pound's trade-weighted index reflected heavy falls against the Deutsche mark (down 3.50 points to DM43.9750), the French franc (down 11.25 centimes to FF11.9450) and the Japanese yen (down 4 yen to 362.5).

A rise of 0.5 or 1 percentage points in American banks' prime lending rates in the near future is generally thought to be unavoidable.

The markets were also reassured by the fact that the bulk of the US Treasury funding programme has been completed satisfactorily.

Recovery on the international side despite further heavy debt provisions enabled Barclays to push up profits by 11 per cent to £262m pretax in the first half of 1983. This compared with the very depressed first half a year ago.

Barclays, the last of the Big Four banks to report, was moderately optimistic about the international debt crisis but Mr Peter Leslie, senior general manager of BBL, reaffirmed the need for some kind of long-term lending schemes to help take pressure off the banks by channeling funds to developing countries.

Pre-tax losses at Acrow, the excavation, equipment and bridge construction group which is being supported by its bankers, soared to over £14m in the year to the end of last March.

The group was to have published results last week but decided to defer them to give it time to consolidate for the first time the results of overseas associates, which would have reduced the loss and boosted the group's net assets.

Group had debt provisions, although two-thirds higher over the year at £193m, were slightly lower than in the previous half. Mr Timothy Bevan, chairman, said the trend seemed to be downwards but cautioned that it was too early to be certain.

At a time when asset growth has slowed sharply, commission and fee income throughout the group has been rising. On the domestic side, corporate and personal tax charges contributed more than 50 per cent more.

Declining markets and heavy realization costs are cited by chairman Mr William de Viger and his new managing director, Mr James Cunningham, as the reason for the losses. These were £10m higher than the year before.

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Provisions were split 60 per cent international and 40 per cent domestic and total provisions amount to 1.9 per cent of group loans.

Domestic profits before loan interest slipped in the first half from £203m a year ago to £182m in the first half of this year but the underlying trend in the clearing bank appears to have been marginally up.

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At another meeting with institutions Mr Clive de Paula chairman of the company, and other board members were also asked to discuss their future strategy for the company.

Declining issues were about seven-to-five ahead of advances.

International Business Machines at 119 was down 1; General Motors at 70 was down 1; Ford at 55 1/2 was down 1 1/2; General Electric at 49 1/2 was down 3/4; Lockheed at 112 1/2 was down 1/2; Texas Instruments at

Mr Cunningham said that although the difficult trading conditions had continued the loss before tax would be "significantly reduced".

Mr Bill Houston, a non-executive director of the group for 10 years, has threatened to seek reelection to the board against the wish of the rest of the seven-man board.

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City Editor's Comment

Beating the unitary tax propaganda

Somewhat belatedly, the Confederation of British Industry yesterday announced its yesterday abhorrent unitary taxation. Cynics, however, may remember that the Unitary Tax Campaign, all members of which are also CBI members, was originally formed because they could not goad the confederation into strong enough action.

But the CBI move should be welcomed because the unitary tax issue has, since the US Supreme Court decision upholding the right of American states to levy such taxes, shifted from an esoteric argument about tax theory to a very practical propaganda war. The object must be legislation on Capitol Hill to lay the ghost once and for all. To achieve that, British and the many sympathetic American companies will need every ally they can find.

For the other side is a formidable opponent. The Multi-states Tax Commission, the American proprietary tax lobby, has been much emboldened by the Supreme Court ruling and at this moment is touring the country telling states that the way is clear for them to follow California and the others. Florida has already done so. It should not be forgotten that President Reagan is a former governor of California.

If the opposition to unitary taxation is to succeed, therefore, it is imperative that the British Government, as well as other governments and the EEC, give their full support. Since the battleground is the lobbies of Capitol Hill, the British Government might consider the admittedly novel step of retaining its own Washington lobbyists.

Certainly, time is short. The state rights movement is in full cry and an issue such as this, easily turned into a populist cause, is not best pursued in a Presidential election year. If the campaign against unitary tax does not make its impact in the next few months the ultimate result

holding firm.

Barclays £262m beats forecasts

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Recovery on the international side despite further heavy debt provisions enabled Barclays to push up profits by 11 per cent to £262m pretax in the first half of 1983. This compared with the very depressed first half a year ago.

Group had debt provisions, although two-thirds higher over the year at £193m, were slightly lower than in the previous half. Mr Timothy Bevan, chairman, said the trend seemed to be downwards but cautioned that it was too early to be certain.

Dow tumbles 14 points

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Rising fears about the course of interest rates sent the Wall Street market sharply lower yesterday.

£200m steel plant deal for McKee

Davy McKee is close to signing a £200m contract for a steel-making plant in the Philippines.

Seven-month figure shows 17% increase

Car sales set for record year

New car sales in Britain in the first seven months of the year rose by 17.3 per cent on last year's figure to almost 971,000. The previous annual car sales figure was in 1979 when the market reached 1.76m. If, as expected, this month's sales exceed 320,000 as a result of the new registration plate prefix and the continuing price war, the year-end total could be a record in spite of the recession.

BIG FOUR BANKS

Table with 3 columns: Bank Name, 1983, 1982. Rows: Barclays, Lloyds, Midland, Natwest.

At a time when asset growth has slowed sharply, commission and fee income throughout the group has been rising. On the domestic side, corporate and personal tax charges contributed more than 50 per cent more.

WALL STREET

100% was down 1 1/2; McDonnell Douglas at 52 was down 2 1/2; Eastman Kodak 70 1/2 off 1/2.

TOP TEN CAR SALES

Table with 2 columns: Year to date, last year's position in brackets. Rows: Ford Escort, Ford Sierra, etc.

The boom in car sales has been even more marked in the US where the market in July was up by 31 per cent to about 790,000. The figure marks a continuation of a trend that has been apparent since the spring and, as a result, the big US car makers are starting to end their discount schemes.

Acrow loss soars over £14m

By Jeremy Warner

Pre-tax losses at Acrow, the excavation, equipment and bridge construction group which is being supported by its bankers, soared to over £14m in the year to the end of last March.

Declining markets and heavy realization costs are cited by chairman Mr William de Viger and his new managing director, Mr James Cunningham, as the reason for the losses. These were £10m higher than the year before.

Tecalemit dispute likely

A dispute over the reelection of a director is expected at this morning's annual meeting of the Tecalemit mechanical engineering and electronics company in London.

Half Year Results

The unaudited results of the Lonrho Group of Companies in respect of the six months ended 31 March, 1983 are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Item, 1983, 1982. Rows: Turnover, Profit before tax, Tax, Minority interest, Profit attributable to shareholders.

Tozer shareholders in refinancing plan

By Our Financial Staff

A consortium of Tozer Kensley & Milbourn shareholders speaking for more than 40 per cent of the company have drawn up plans to refinance the troubled trading and motor distributor which has £100m of debts.

The package could total £52m. Doubts over whether its plan is being taken seriously by the board may prompt the consortium into calling a special shareholders' meeting. One member of the group said last

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Table with 2 columns: Item, 1983, 1982. Rows: Turnover, Profit before tax, Tax, Minority interest, Profit attributable to shareholders.

Notes: 1. The 1982 figures have been restated, as required for comparative purposes, to reflect the change in accounting policy for the translation of overseas companies' results as reported in the 1982 Accounts.



Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 723.6 down 2.0 FT 1000: 79.19 up 0.08 FT All Shares: 452.7 up 0.31

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.4875 down 1.9 cents Index 84.0 down 0.9

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates Bank base rates 9 1/2% Finance houses base rate 10%

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am \$413.75 pm \$414 close \$413-413.75

TODAY

Interims: Aquis Securities, Botswana RST, Ferguson Industrial (quarterly), Kennedy Brookes.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

J. Biliam, Royal Victoria Hotel, Sheffield (noon); Eickhouse Dudley, Strathallan Hotel, 225 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham (noon); Ferguson Industrial Holdings, Appleby Castle, Cumbria (11.30); G&I International, The Savoy Hotel, Strand, WC2 (noon); Imperial Continental Gas Association, The Chartered Insurance Institute, 20 Aldermanbury, EC2 (11.00); International Signal & Control Group, Lancaster Room, Savoy Hotel, (River Entrance) Savoy Place, WC2 (noon); Robert Jenkins (Holdings), Board Room, Wortley Road, Rotherham (noon); Scape Group, Saxon Inn Hotel, Yew Tree Drive, Blackburn (11.30); Tecalemit, Chartered Insurance Institute, 20 Aldermanbury, EC2 (11.00).

NOTEBOOK

Lonrho made interim pretax profits of £43.4m, raising the possibility that the full year results could exceed £100m. Although the benefits of Lonrho's worldwide rationalization are said to be coming through shareholders who have not seen a dividend increase since 1981 should not expect one this year.



# Top 50 down in fortune

New York (AP Dow Jones) - The world's 50 largest industrial companies posted a 3.4 per cent decline in earnings in 1982 on a 3.3 per cent decline in sales, according to *Fortune* magazine.

The magazine said it was the first time since 1958 that the earnings and sales figures for the 50 biggest companies had fallen in the same year.

Earnings fell to \$39bn and sales were down to \$1,240bn. There were 21 US companies and 29 non-US companies on the list.

Exxon of New York retained its No 1 position in terms of sales, followed as it was in 1981 by Royal Dutch-Shell group of the Hague and Shell.

IBM had the largest profit of the biggest companies with net income of \$4.4bn. Exxon was second with earnings of \$4.19bn.

In terms of sales, General Motors and Mobil traded places, with GM moving up to third place and Mobil dropping to fourth.

British Petroleum moved into fifth place, up one form last year, as Texaco slipped from fifth to sixth.

International Business Machines was at 8 (up from 11), Standard Oil was at 9 (from 7), and Du Pont was at 10 (from 16).

The largest loss among the big companies was \$1.2bn by ENI, the Italian state oil company.

The combined profit for the 21 oil companies listed fell 29 per cent and sales were down 7 per cent.

# Lonrho pot-boiler 'indicates recovery'

Lonrho Half-year to 31.3.83  
Pretax profit £43.4m (£37.8m)  
Turnover £1.1bn (£1br)  
Net interim dividend 3¢ (3p)

Lonrho's half-time figures, released yesterday, contained few surprises. The £43.4m pretax profit from its 850 companies worldwide comfortably met undemanding forecasts of a 13 per cent increase.

However, the group says it is an encouraging pointer to Lonrho's profits recovery. The company's new chairman, Mr Edward Du Cann, has already told shareholders profits for the year to the end of next month will be at least £100m.

But the figure could be nearer £105m, which would be 40 per cent higher than last year. With Lonrho so close to ruling off the books for 1983/84 the bullish statement is more poignant.

Significant contributions are expected from some British companies, gold, platinum and sugar.

According to Lonrho it has been pursuing a rationalization policy for the past three years, the benefits of which are beginning to come through. When it expanded from South African and Zimbabwean origins it spent between £500m and £600m buying British companies.

The company admits some have been less than successful. The scars of its sortie into the steel industry for example still show. A further £6m - much of it thought to be from the closure

of Hadfields - was written off in the first half. It brings the total cost of the steelworks to about £27m. The group received £10m back under the arrangement with British Steel Corporation.

Other British cutbacks could be on the way.

George Outram was a patchy record. The *Sunday Standard* was closed two years after launching and book publishing looks to be under close review. Brentford nylons is still in the red, but the group has indicated it will continue to look for a solution.

Still unresolved is the House of Fraser, the stores group in which Lonrho has a 30 per cent stake worth about £100m. It is unlikely to relax the pressure for Fraser changes or give up its fight to have Harrods floated off as a separate company.

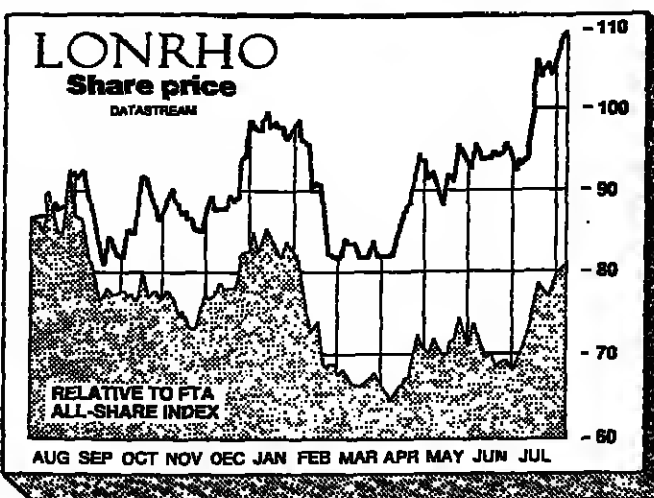
Lonrho says the Harrods demerger could transform its fortunes almost overnight. Until then, the group is paying an unchanged 3p interim and is likely to maintain its total payout at 9p.

## Reed Int

It would be churlish to deny that Reed International's first quarter pretax profits, up by £4m to £20.4m, is a step in the right direction.

It would be equally graceless to ignore the advantages from the rationalization of the wall-paper operations and the final disposal of Odhams. But the problem remains that Reed is a mature business with no clear avenue for development.

The recent advances in North



America and Britain have chiefly been fuelled by the consumer boom, the durability of which may be doubted, and by reorganizations across industries such as pulp which have left the group with a larger share of a shrinking business.

For the moment, however, these trends should be enough to carry Reed to £80m or £90m pretax this year against £6.1m last year.

But with margins still thin it has a struggle on its hands to achieve a respectable return on assets.

Reed has tried to solve the problem by acquisition - £100m in two years - and by improvements in efficiency. But the main result so far has been to raise gearing to 38 per cent. And who will buy the Mirror group?

## GKN

The proposed takeover of Associated Engineering by Guest Keen & Nettlefolds was welcomed by the City yesterday after GKN announced that it was increasing its terms from £51m to £66.5m.

Associated's board quickly approved an offer of three new GKN ordinary shares for every eight Associated shares, which values each Associated share at 68p, against 50.7p under the previous offer, and 36p before GKN took an interest on July 26.

By raising the bid to the top end of its expected range GKN saves the costly and counterproductive problems which would be posed by Associated resistance to a deal which is in

the interests of both companies shareholders.

GKN has rightly taken the view that the sooner a deal is concluded the sooner the task of rationalizing the rump of the British engine component manufacturing and distribution business can be concluded.

With 80 per cent of Associated's shares in the hands of a widely spread and largely approving audience of institutions the mechanics of the takeover are likely to be completed tidily.

The only remaining stumbling block would be an investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

But despite the near-two-thirds of British component business and an 8 per cent share of the British parts distribution market which the merged business would hold, a referral is thought improbable because of the unhappy prospects for employment in the businesses if they were to remain independent.

Engine component manufacture should be seen as a worldwide business if it would be argued, while car parts distribution is as fiercely competitive as any British marketplace. In fact, ministers must be quietly lauding the virtues of a merger which protects Britain's interests in the world car business.

company is still a long way from becoming a recovery stock.

The improvement is the result of its tough rationalization programme which cut production entirely at the Petavelle plant which is now only the headquarters.

But it also owes much to the higher consumer spending after the removal of high purchase restrictions and lower interest rates.

New models have also been introduced which carry higher margins than the old vacuum cleaners. Supplies of the new

Hoover Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax profit £1m (loss £4.8m)  
Stated earnings 3p (loss 25p)  
Turnover £39m (£39m)  
Net interim dividend nil (same)  
Share price 134p, up 2p  
\* 185p, up 5p

Turbo upright cleaners are now coming through smoothly from the Scottish factory after a few difficulties early on, although production volumes are still lower than Hoover would like.

The US parent company has not seen a return on its 57.4 per cent investment for three years.

Like other shareholders it must be anxious to see something this time round.

It was incorrectly stated yesterday that Overseas Containers Ltd is to replace its steam turbine vessels with five diesel-powered ships. This investment is being made by Atlantic Container Line.

# Tribunal claim withdrawn

By Susan Bevan

Hasty discussions resulted in a last minute withdrawal yesterday of a highly unusual industrial tribunal application against merchant bankers Leopold Joseph by two former directors claiming reinstatement.

After discussions at the tribunal's premises which lasted about an hour and a half the tribunal reported that the application had been dismissed after withdrawal by the applicants on terms endorsed by their counsel.

One of the terms was the maintenance of complete secrecy about what agreement had been hammered out.

The two applicants, Mr John Timmuss, who was Leopold Joseph's finance director and Mr Hubert Ross, previously company secretary, were dismissed after a meeting of the board of Leopold Joseph Holdings which owns the merchant bank, in January.

It is believed that this followed a meeting of the bank's board where a number of directors tried to remove Mr Louis Heymann as chief executive. Mr Heymann is also a director of the holding company.

The fracas would appear to have reflected a difference of views between younger management and the older guard at the bank as to how it should be administered.

Mr Timmuss, aged 37, was employed by the bank for nearly nine years and joined the board in 1980. Mr Ross, aged 31, spent seven years with the bank.

## WALL STREET

Aug 3	Aug 2	Aug 3	Aug 2	Aug 3	Aug 2
AMF Inc	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2
AT&T	21 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2
Bank of America	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2
Boeing	23 1/2	23 1/2	23 1/2	23 1/2	23 1/2
Chrysler	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
IBM	25 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2
General Electric	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2
International Business Machines	27 1/2	27 1/2	27 1/2	27 1/2	27 1/2
Johnson & Johnson	28 1/2	28 1/2	28 1/2	28 1/2	28 1/2
Merck	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2
3M	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2
Walt Disney	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2
Exxon	32 1/2	32 1/2	32 1/2	32 1/2	32 1/2
Amgen	33 1/2	33 1/2	33 1/2	33 1/2	33 1/2
Amgen	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2
Amgen	35 1/2	35 1/2	35 1/2	35 1/2	35 1/2
Amgen	36 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2
Amgen	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2
Amgen	38 1/2	38 1/2	38 1/2	38 1/2	38 1/2
Amgen	39 1/2	39 1/2	39 1/2	39 1/2	39 1/2
Amgen	40 1/2	40 1/2	40 1/2	40 1/2	40 1/2
Amgen	41 1/2	41 1/2	41 1/2	41 1/2	41 1/2
Amgen	42 1/2	42 1/2	42 1/2	42 1/2	42 1/2
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Amgen	46 1/2	46 1/2	46 1/2	46 1/2	46 1/2
Amgen	47 1/2	47 1/2	47 1/2	47 1/2	47 1/2
Amgen	48 1/2	48 1/2	48 1/2	48 1/2	48 1/2
Amgen	49 1/2	49 1/2	49 1/2	49 1/2	49 1/2
Amgen	50 1/2	50 1/2	50 1/2	50 1/2	50 1/2

# Tricentrol joins in Chinese deal

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Tricentrol, the UK independent oil company which has been operating under... suggestions of a takeover in the past few weeks following management changes and the death of its director in charge of exploration, will this weekend sign a deal with the Chinese Government which will give the company a substantial share of a possible new oil field in the South China Sea.

Exploration in the South China Sea and Pearl River basin could lead, according to oil industry analysts to a new "North Sea". So far only a consortium headed by BP has been granted a licence to drill for oil in the area.

On Saturday the Chinese Government is due to sign an agreement with a consortium led by Occidental, Tricentrol is among the partners in the consortium. The other major partner is Elf of France.

Tricentrol and the other companies in the consortium have not officially commented on the signing. Strict adherence to Chinese protocol has resulted in few details of the contract emerging.

While foreign oil companies remain keen to start drilling in the South China Sea, industry sources are split on the importance of the area.

Several US companies are considering abandoning pro-

## COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

**Peter Black**  
Year to 30.4.83  
Pretax profit £3,477,000 (£3,369,000)  
Stated earnings 16.63p (14.49p) adjusted  
Turnover £50,630,000 (£40,305,000)  
Nat dividend 1.75p  
Dividend payable 10.10.83

**Goode, Durrant and Murray**  
Half-year to 30.4.83  
Pretax profit £1,015,000 (£991,000)  
Turnover £28,954,000 (£30,938,000)

**Johnstone's Paints**  
Half-year to 28.5.83  
Pretax profit £584,000 (£706,000)  
Stated earnings 3.12p (3.23p)  
Turnover £4,419,000 (£4,016,000)  
Net interim dividend 1.76p (same)  
Dividend payable 21.10.83

**Gnomia Photographic**  
Year to 31.5.83  
Stated earnings 5.72p (5.34p)  
Turnover £1,480,000 (£1,532,000)  
Net dividend 4.5p (same)

**Malaysia Rubber Company**  
Year to 31.1.83  
Pretax profit £129,837 (£112,002)  
Stated earnings 5.03p (4.36p)  
Nat final dividend 4.5p (3.5p)

**Times Veneer**  
Year 1982  
Pretax loss £181,023 (loss £140,218)  
Stated loss 2.56p (loss 1.99p)  
Turnover £4,063m (£4,278m)

**Caledonian Associated Cinemas**  
Year to 28.3.83  
Pretax profit £454,000 (£215,000)  
Stated earnings 42p (loss 6p)  
Turnover £10,163,000 (£10,782,000)  
Nat dividend 7p (same)

## COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		LONDON COMMODITY PRICES		London Grain Futures Market	
Official turnover figures		Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per cwt		Month	WHEAT
Prices in pounds per metric ton		Case-all in US per metric ton		July	118.00
50 or its nearest part or ounce				Aug	117.00
				Sept	116.00
				Oct	115.00
				Nov	114.00
				Dec	113.00
				Jan	112.00
				Feb	111.00
				Mar	110.00
				Apr	109.00
				May	108.00
				June	107.00
				July	106.00
				Aug	105.00
				Sept	104.00
				Oct	103.00
				Nov	102.00
				Dec	101.00
				Jan	100.00
				Feb	99.00
				Mar	98.00
				Apr	97.00
				May	96.00
				June	95.00
				July	94.00
				Aug	93.00
				Sept	92.00
				Oct	91.00
				Nov	90.00
				Dec	89.00
				Jan	88.00
				Feb	87.00
				Mar	86.00
				Apr	85.00
				May	84.00
				June	83.00
				July	82.00
				Aug	81.00
				Sept	80.00
				Oct	79.00
				Nov	78.00
				Dec	77.00
				Jan	76.00
				Feb	75.00
				Mar	74.00
				Apr	73.00
				May	72.00
				June	71.00
				July	70.00
				Aug	69.00
				Sept	68.00
				Oct	67.00
				Nov	66.00
				Dec	65.00
				Jan	64.00
				Feb	63.00
				Mar	62.00
				Apr	61.00
				May	60.00
				June	59.00
				July	58.00
				Aug	57.00
				Sept	56.00
				Oct	55.00
				Nov	54.00
				Dec	53.00
				Jan	52.00
				Feb	51.00
				Mar	50.00
				Apr	49.00
				May	48.00
				June	47.00
				July	46.00
				Aug	45.00
				Sept	44.00
				Oct	43.00
				Nov	42.00
				Dec	41.00
				Jan	40.00
				Feb	39.00
				Mar	38.00
				Apr	37.00
				May	36.00
				June	35.00
				July	34.00
				Aug	33.00
				Sept	32.00
				Oct	31.00
				Nov	30.00
				Dec	29.00
				Jan	28.00
				Feb	27.00
				Mar	26.00
				Apr	25.00
				May	24.00
				June	23.00
				July	22.00
				Aug	21.00
				Sept	20.00
				Oct	19.00
				Nov	18.00
				Dec	17.00
				Jan	16.00
				Feb	15.00
				Mar	14.00
				Apr	13.00
				May	12.00
				June	11.00
				July	10.00
				Aug	9.00
				Sept	8.00
				Oct	7.00
				Nov	6.00
				Dec	5.00
				Jan	4.00
				Feb	3.00
				Mar	2.00
				Apr	1.00
				May	0.00
				June	-1.00
				July	-2.00
				Aug	-3.00
				Sept	-4.00
				Oct	-5.00



# Notice to Noteholders

Bankers Trust Company in its capacity as Trustee, Fiscal Agent or Principal Paying Agent for the following issues, hereby gives notice to the Noteholders that with effect from 16th August, 1983 the new address of the Luxembourg Paying Agent and/or Transfer Agent **BANQUE INDOSUEZ LUXEMBOURG** (formerly Banque de l'Indochine et de Suez S.A. Luxembourg) will be 39, Allée Scheffer, Luxembourg. Telephone, telex, P.O. Box numbers and telegraphic address remain unchanged.

Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit £20,000,000 15¼ per cent. Sterling/US Dollar Option Notes 1985  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 40,000,000 12½ per cent. Notes Due 1985  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 50,000,000 12 per cent. Notes due 1st October, 1983  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 75,000,000 13% Notes Due 1986  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit £20,000,000 13¼ per cent. Notes 1986  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 50,000,000 15¼ per cent. Notes Due 1986  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 75,000,000 Retractable Notes Due 1993  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 50,000,000 Zero Coupon Discount Notes due 1987  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 75,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due 1987  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 200,000,000 Zero Coupon Notes Due 1994  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 100,000,000 15¼ per cent. Notes Due 1989 Convertible at the Option of the Holder to Floating Rate Notes Due 1989  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 100,000,000 14¼ per cent. Bonds Due 15th May, 1990  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 112,500,000 14¼ per cent. Bonds Due 1990  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit Can \$ 50,000,000 12¼ per cent. Bonds Due 15th February, 1988  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit ECU 60,000,000 1983-95 Retractable Bonds  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit US\$ 150,000,000 10¼ per cent. Notes due 15th March, 1986  
 Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit £ 30,000,000 11¼ per cent. Notes 1988  
 Alcoa of Australia Ltd. US\$ 30,000,000 13¼ per cent. Bonds Due 1991  
 Alcoa of Australia Ltd. US\$ 50,000,000 16% Notes Due 1989  
 Amax International Capital Corporation US\$ 12,000,000 8¼ per cent. Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures due April 1, 1986 and US\$ 20,000,000 8¼ per cent. Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures (Series A) due April 1, 1986  
 Amedco International Finance N.V. US\$ 15,000,000 7½ per cent. Convertible Bonds due 1998  
 APS Finance Company N.V. US\$ 50,000,000 16¼ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1988  
 APS Finance Company N.V. US\$ 60,000,000 17¼ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1986  
 APS Finance Company N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 16¼ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1989  
 APS Finance Company N.V. US\$ 25,000,000 16 per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1989  
 APS Finance Company N.V. US\$ 60,000,000 11¼ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1990  
 Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires US\$ 30,000,000 Floating Rate Notes due 1986  
 Bank of Communications US\$ 25,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due 1985  
 Bank of New Zealand US\$ 50,000,000 11¾ per cent. Capital Notes 1993  
 Bankers Trust Overseas Finance N.V. US\$ 200,000,000 Guaranteed Floating Rate Subordinated Notes Due 1994  
 Banque de l'Indochine et de Suez (Indosuez) US\$ 100,000,000 15% Notes Due 1989  
 Bergen Bank A/S US\$ 25,000,000 Floating Rate Capital Notes Due 1989  
 Bergen Bank A/S US\$ 25,000,000 Floating Rate Capital Notes Due 1991  
 Boston International Finance Corporation N.V. US\$ 100,000,000 14¼ per cent. Guaranteed Notes Due June 1, 1989  
 Caisse d'Aide à l'Équipement des Collectivités Locales US\$ 75,000,000 11½ per cent. Notes due 1990  
 Caisse Nationale de Crédit Agricole US\$ 250,000,000 Floating Rate Notes 1982/1997  
 Caisse Nationale de Crédit Agricole US\$ 250,000,000 Floating Rate Notes due 1995 with Warrants to purchase US\$ 125,000,000 10¼ per cent. Bonds due 1989  
 Caisse Nationale des Télécommunications 250,000,000 United States Dollars Floating Rate Notes due 1991  
 Campbell Soup Overseas Finance N.V. US\$ 200,000,000 Zero Coupon Guaranteed Notes Due 1992  
 Campbell Soup Overseas Finance N.V. US\$ 50,000,000 14 per cent. Guaranteed Notes Due 1989  
 Carolina Power & Light Finance N.V. US\$ 60,000,000 16½ per cent. Guaranteed Notes Due February 15, 1989  
 Chemical New York N.V. US\$ 150,000,000 Guaranteed Floating Rate Subordinated Notes Due 1994  
 Cities Service Overseas Finance N.V. US\$ 150,000,000 17 per cent. Guaranteed Notes Due 1988  
 City of Gothenburg US\$ 30,000,000 8¼ per cent. Bonds due 1987  
 City of Stockholm US\$ 50,000,000 Retractable Debentures Due March 15, 1988  
 Comcast International Finance N.V. US\$ 22,500,000 8 per cent. Convertible Bonds due 1997  
 Conoco Eurofinance N.V. US\$ 50,000,000 8 per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1986  
 CPC Finance N.V. US\$ 50,000,000 16¼ per cent. Guaranteed Notes Due September 15, 1986  
 Crédit Chimique US\$ 50,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due June 1988/1990  
 Crédit d'Équipement des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises US\$ 100,000,000 Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes Due 1993  
 Crédit d'Équipement des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises £35,000,000 11¼ per cent. Guaranteed Bonds 1995  
 Crédit Foncier de France 200,000,000 United States Dollars Exchangeable Floating Rate Notes due 1989  
 Crédit National US\$ 200,000,000 Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes Due 1994  
 Den norske Creditbank (Luxembourg) S.A. US\$ 20,000,000 Floating Rate Subordinated Bearer Participation Certificates 1990  
 Dynalecton International Finance N.V. US\$ 15,000,000 9½ per cent. Convertible Subordinated Guaranteed Debentures due 1995  
 EAB Finance N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes Due 1990  
 Eaton Finance N.V. US\$ 50,000,000 13¼ per cent. Guaranteed Notes due January 15, 1989  
 Electricité de France US\$ 100,000,000 11½ per cent. Guaranteed Notes Due 1993  
 Enso-Gutzeit Oy US\$ 50,000,000 11½ per cent. Guaranteed Notes Due 1990  
 European Asian Capital B.V. US\$ 50,000,000 Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes Due 1992  
 European Asian Capital B.V. US\$ 20,000,000 Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes Due 1987  
 European Economic Community US\$ 65,000,000 14¼ per cent. Bonds due April 20, 1993  
 European Economic Community US\$ 1,800,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due 1990  
 European Investment Bank US\$ 60,000,000 8¾ per cent. Bonds due June 1, 1986  
 European Investment Bank US\$ 50,000,000 9½ per cent. Bonds due 20th March, 1986 and US\$ 30,000,000 9¾ per cent. Bonds due 20th March, 1991  
 European Investment Bank US\$ 100,000,000 9.70% Bonds of 1979/1989  
 European Investment Bank US\$ 80,000,000 11¼ per cent. Bonds 1992  
 European Investment Bank US\$ 100,000,000 11 per cent. Bonds Due 1988  
 European Investment Bank US\$ 100,000,000 9¾ per cent. Bonds Due 1987  
 European Investment Bank US\$ 100,000,000 12¼ per cent. Notes due 1988  
 European Investment Bank US\$ 200,000,000 12¼ per cent. Bonds Due 1989  
 European Investment Bank US\$ 150,000,000 15½ per cent. Bonds Due 1985/89  
 Finnish Export Credit Ltd. US\$ 50,000,000 10¼ per cent. Guaranteed Notes Due 1985  
 Finnish Export Credit Ltd. £15,000,000 13¼ per cent. Guaranteed Notes 1986  
 Finnish Export Credit Ltd. US\$ 50,000,000 14¼ per cent. Notes Due 1986  
 Finnish Export Credit Ltd. US\$ 75,000,000 12¾ per cent. Notes due 1987  
 Fluor Finance N.V. US\$ 50,000,000 13¼ per cent. Notes Due September 30, 1984 With Warrants to Purchase US\$ 150,000,000 Zero Coupon Debentures Due March 31, 1990  
 Fluor Finance N.V. US\$ 100,000,000 14 per cent. Notes Due September 15, 1989  
 GenFinance N.V. US\$ 100,000,000 11¼ per cent. Bonds due 1990  
 Grupo Industrial Alfa, S.A. US\$ 75,000,000 Floating Rate Notes due 1988  
 Gulf States Overseas Finance N.V. US\$ 60,000,000 17¼ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1988  
 Gulf States Overseas Finance N.V. US\$ 60,000,000 16 per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1990

GW Overseas Finance N.V. US\$ 50,000,000 7½ per cent. Convertible Subordinated Debentures Due 1998  
 Honeywell International Finance N.V. US\$ 100,000,000 10 per cent. Guaranteed Debentures 1990  
 Iberica de Autopistas, S.A., Concesionaria del Estado ("Iberpistas") US\$ 18,000,000 Serial Floating Rate Mortgage Bearer Notes Due 1986  
 Inco Limited £25,000,000 15¼ per cent. Unsecured Loan Stock 2006 with U.S. Dollar Repayment option  
 Industrias Petrolas, S.A. de C.V. US\$ 60,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due 1989  
 IPF (Illinois Power Finance) Company N.V. US\$ 50,000,000 14¼ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1989  
 Istituto Mobiliare Italiano US\$ 50,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due 1992  
 John Hancock Overseas Finance N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 17 per cent. Guaranteed Notes due November 1, 1989  
 Kansallis-Osake-Pankki US\$ 50,000,000 Floating Rate Capital Notes 1992  
 Kansallis-Osake-Pankki US\$ 25,000,000 Floating Rate Capital Notes 1989  
 Kingdom of Sweden US\$ 150,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due 1988  
 Kingdom of Sweden US\$ 110,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due November 1988  
 Kingdom of Sweden US\$ 650,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due 1989  
 Kingdom of Sweden US\$ 150,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due January 1995  
 Kingdom of Sweden US\$ 1,200,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due 1993  
 Levi Strauss International Finance Company N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 11 per cent. Guaranteed Notes due July 1, 1990  
 Marine Midland Finance N.V. US\$ 125,000,000 Guaranteed Floating Rate Subordinated Notes Due 1994  
 McDonald's Finance Company N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 9 per cent. Guaranteed Notes due February 8, 1993  
 McDonnell Douglas Finance Corporation International N.V. US\$ 50,000,000 17 per cent. Guaranteed Notes due February 15, 1989  
 MNC Bank International Finance Corporation N.V. US\$ 20,000,000 12½ per cent. Senior Guaranteed Notes Due 1985  
 New Zealand Steel Development Ltd up to US\$ 300,000,000 Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes 1992  
 Nordic International Finance B.V. US\$ 40,000,000 Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes 1991  
 Österreichische Kontrollbank A.G. US\$ 75,000,000 Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes 1986  
 Österreichische Kontrollbank A.G. US\$ 52,130,000 15¼ per cent. Guaranteed Bonds 1992  
 Österreichische Kontrollbank A.G. Can \$ 63,000,000 16¼ per cent. Guaranteed Notes 1988  
 Österreichische Kontrollbank A.G. up to US\$ 175,000,000 10 per cent. Guaranteed Notes 1991  
 Österreichische Länderbank A.G. US\$ 50,000,000 Floating Rate Subordinated Notes Due 1994  
 Pacific Gas and Electric Finance Company N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 16 per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1988  
 Pacific Gas and Electric Finance Company N.V. US\$ 80,000,000 15¼ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1989  
 Pacific Gas and Electric Finance Company N.V. US\$ 45,000,000 15½ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1989  
 Pacific Gas and Electric Finance Company N.V. US\$ 60,000,000 14¼ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1990  
 PepsiCo Capital Corporation N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 8 per cent. Convertible Subordinated Debentures Due 1996  
 Province de Québec up to US\$ 100,000,000 14¼ per cent. Bonds 1986 extendable at the Bondholders' Option to 1993  
 Province de Québec US\$ 150,000,000 15¼ per cent. Bonds Due 1989  
 Province de Québec £35,000,000 15½ per cent. Notes 1987  
 Province de Québec £30,000,000 14½ per cent. Notes 1989  
 Province de Québec US\$ 150,000,000 13 per cent. Bonds 1990  
 Province de Québec US\$ 50,000,000 10 per cent. Bonds due 1995  
 Republic of Finland US\$ 100,000,000 9½ per cent. Notes 1986  
 Republic of Finland SDR 50,000,000 8¾ per cent. Notes Due 1984  
 Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Français US\$ 100,000,000 11½ per cent. Guaranteed Bonds due 15th March, 1993  
 Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Français US\$ 50,000,000 11¼ per cent. Guaranteed Notes 1988  
 Southern California Edison Finance Company N.V. US\$ 50,000,000 14 per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1987  
 Southern California Edison Finance Company N.V. US\$ 50,000,000 14¼ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1988  
 Southern California Edison Finance Company N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 16¼ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1986  
 Southern California Edison Finance Company N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 15 per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1989  
 Southern California Edison Finance Company N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 11½ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1990  
 Southern California Edison Finance Company N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 10½ per cent. Guaranteed Debentures Due 1990  
 Southwest Airlines Eurofinance N.V. US\$ 35,000,000 6¼ per cent. Convertible Subordinated Debentures Due 1998  
 State Bank of India US\$ 30,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Due 1987  
 State of Spain US\$ 100,000,000 15¼ per cent. Notes Due 1987  
 Sundsvallsbanken US\$ 20,000,000 Floating Rate Capital Notes Due 1985  
 Svenska Cellulosa Aktiebolaget SCA US\$ 19,750,000 9 per cent. Convertible Subordinated Bonds 1998  
 Svenska Handelsbanken US\$ 35,000,000 Floating Rate Notes due 1987  
 Svenska Handelsbanken US\$ 45,000,000 13¼ per cent. Notes due 1988  
 Svenska Handelsbanken US\$ 100,000,000 13 per cent. Notes due November 17, 1990  
 Transamerica Financial Corporation N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 7 per cent. Notes Due September 3, 1986  
 Transamerica Financial Corporation N.V. US\$ 150,000,000 Zero Coupon Debentures Due September 3, 1991  
 Transamerica Financial Corporation N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 Zero Coupon Notes Due December 22, 1986  
 Transamerica Financial Corporation N.V. US\$ 150,000,000 Zero Coupon Debentures Due December 22, 1989  
 Union Camp Overseas Finance N.V. US\$ 70,000,000 11¼ per cent. Guaranteed Notes Due November 1, 1989  
 Union Carbide Overseas Finance Corporation N.V. US\$ 150,000,000 14¼ per cent. Guaranteed Notes Due May 1, 1989  
 United Mexican States US\$ 175,000,000 18½ per cent. Retractable Bonds Due 1997  
 Wells Fargo International Financing Corporation N.V. US\$ 75,000,000 15 per cent. Guaranteed Notes Due March 15, 1987  
 YFC International Finance N.V. US\$ 15,000,000 7½ per cent. Convertible Subordinated Bonds due 1998  
 Zentralparkasse Und Kommerzbank, Wien US\$ 50,000,000 11½ per cent. Subordinated Bonds Due 1990



**Bankers Trust Company**  
 Corporate Trust and Agency Group



APPOINTMENTS

Du Pont names new chief

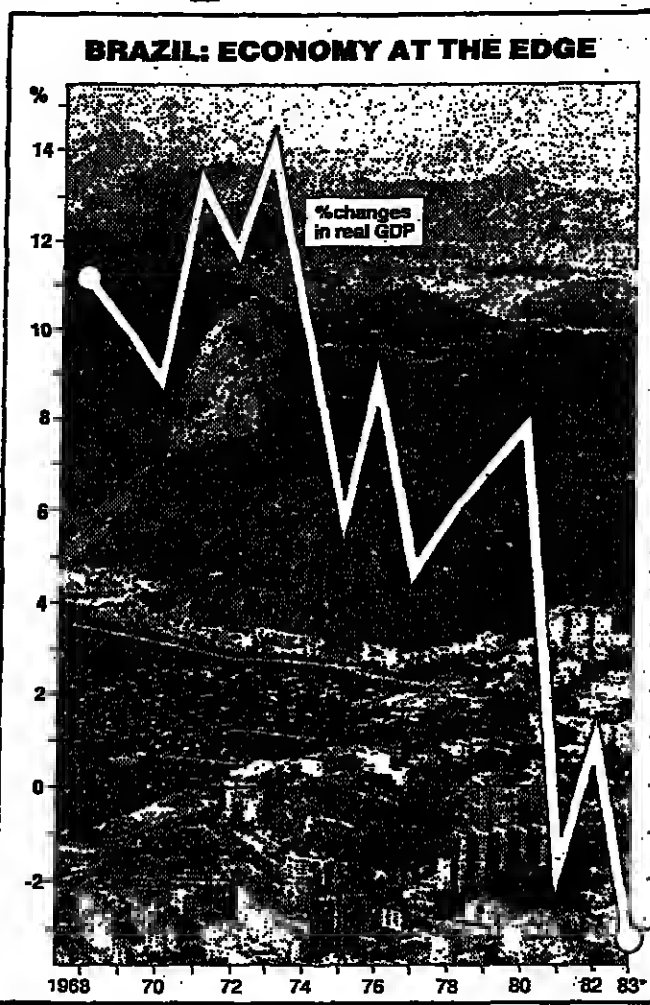
Du Pont (UK): Mr Howard Clausen has been appointed managing director, succeeding Mr Ronald Sullivan, who has returned to the parent company in the United States. Hill Samuel & Co: Mr Alex Monnas, Mr Roger Reynolds and Mr David von Simpson are to join the board from September 1. Guinness Mahon & Co: Mr Howard Flight has been appointed a director. Mott, Hay & Anderson International: Mr Austin Bamfylde, an associate of Mott, Hay & Anderson Far East in Hongkong, has become a director of Mott, Hay & Anderson International & Mott, Hay & Anderson Asia. He will be based in Singapore. Singer & Friedlander: Mr Peter Benton has been made a director. Mardon Packaging International: Mr Clive Mardon, deputy chairman of the group's Flexible Packaging Division, has become a director. Seimast Holdings: Dr I. M. Gray is the new managing director. He succeeds Dr A. W. Smith who has resigned as managing director and director to take up appointment within BP Minerals. Dr R. D. Moore has resigned and Mr R. J. Taylor has been appointed secretary of the company. Finnish Export Credit (FEC): Mr Antti Lehtinen, now a director of Suomen Pankki Finland Bank, becomes managing director on September 1. He replaces Mr Erkki Karmila, who will return to his former employer, Kansilias Osake Pankki, as deputy chief general manager with responsibility for the bank's foreign activities. National Provident Institution: Mr Geoffrey Holden has been appointed assistant general manager (Establishment) to succeed Mr. Allan Price who has retired. Mr Brian Blake has become assistant general manager (Information Services). Boco Silcock: Mr Allan Price, currently managing director, is now chairman of Boco Silcock and Unilever Agribusiness Group UK and Ireland. He succeeds Mr Mike Dowdall, who becomes deputy so-ordinator co-ordinator later this year. CRA: Mr John Ralph has become managing director. Sir Roderick Carnegie continues as chairman and chief executive.

The debt crisis has moved on. The banking system may survive, but will economies like Brazil's survive the regimen imposed by the IMF and the banks? Patrick Knight reports.

Brazil: the collapse of a dream

There is a considerable way to go before Brazil and the International Monetary Fund reach the point of signing a revised letter of intent. Moreover, it is not certain that such an agreement will meet a better fate than the one signed in February. Meanwhile the Brazilian economy is already showing signs of coming under intolerable strain. The IMF mission returned to Brazil this week, apparently because the board in Washington was not satisfied that undertakings on wage cuts, the rate of inflation and public sector spending will be achieved. Even before they arrived, the Government, faced with the news that much of industry and commerce was on the verge of running out of cash, has suddenly had to take the sort of fire brigade action the IMF can only condemn. It has made emergency, almost open ended, and apparently indiscriminate loans to enable dozens of firms to make end-of-month wage, and other payments. Without state aid, much of industry and commerce, weakened after four years of high financial costs, and stagnant markets, says it would just have to shut its doors. Most of Brazil's 23 states are also on the brink of bankruptcy. They are faced with drastic cuts in revenue without making reductions to services or manpower. The trigger for the latest crisis emerged from measures taken partly at IMF instigation less than a month ago. These involved an attempt to curb inflation by limiting banking interest rates. The result of this measure, which affects only the 7 per cent of deposits previously free of controls, was to dry this market up, and deny industry its only remaining source of credit. This crisis, and the drastic solution to it, (the Banco Do Brasil will have to print most of the money it loans), illustrates that it is proving dangerous to apply the cold logic of international calculating procedures to a complex situation like Brazil's. If such measures are applied, they look likely to wreck the country's manufacturing industry, and perhaps most of the other modern productive sectors of the economy. Because of the strange circumstances of the

past two decades, the Brazilian economy is a distorted artificial creation. If attempts are made to apply solutions understood to be appropriate by European and North American bankers to one part of it, they create intolerable strains and stresses to another part, threatening the whole structure. The reasons can be tracked back at least to the "miracle" years of the late sixties, and early seventies. Then, the Brazilian economy was able to grow at rates more than 10 per cent for several years on end, achieving in one decade a degree of transformation of society that took centuries in Europe, and decades in the United States. But unorthodox financial and accounting methods were used to do it. The resulting distortions have been disguised by the accelerating inflation which followed the years of boom, by the increasingly complex system of indexing which has cushioned the effects and by the ability to borrow massively from abroad, which has avoided the need for sacrifices at home. Some 70 per cent of Brazil's industrial production is now in the hands of the state, in the form of massive monopolies. Apart from the usual utilities, these extend to oil, mining, metal processing and petrochemicals. A high proportion of the nominally private sector is also, in all but name, publicly owned if not controlled. In the boom years, few firms were able to raise finance to grow at the same rate as the economy as a whole, or had the confidence or managerial ability to do so. Almost all firms have grown large as a result of state aid, and using public finance, so they have not provided a critical body of opinion to restrain government action when it appeared foolhardy. The reason the public sector, and a large part of the private sector, have grown so fast recently, is that until last year, Brazil has been able to borrow significantly faster than the economy has grown. In the past four years, borrowing has grown even more hectically, while productive output has gone into reverse. Industry has declined by at least a fifth in those four years. Last year, there was growth of



standable. Just to stand still on unemployment, 1.5 million jobs have to be created each year. Unemployment, and underemployment rates stand at at least 30 per cent of the workforce, and average per capita incomes are still about £700 a year. There is no unemployment pay. But state job creation does not make sense when inflation exceeds 100 per cent and creditors are insisting on austerity. The unique economic situation of the last few years has been made possible by the abundance, historically probably unique, of cheap money in the international money markets. Brazil's need for cash coincided neatly with bankers' need to recycle oil money to borrowers. They saw Brazil as a good risk, with a well-managed economy and infinite natural resources, that should be lent the money it said it needed.

Brazil had no alternative but to turn to the IMF at the beginning of this year, as its creditors insisted. But the men from Washington, as they move between the air conditioned offices and five star hotels of Brasilia, which is almost totally insulated from Brazil's reality, seem unaware of the true state of the problem. The men they are dealing with, are the same team who built up the edifice by means of a score of artifices, which the IMF is now asking them to dismantle and with it, their power and prestige. What should be done? Sack the hundreds of thousands of unproductive public servants, and send them back where they came from, without any social security payments to sustain them? That would destroy, or seriously weaken the fragile, but essentially intact, market, which allows Brazil's industry to operate, and have a somewhat profitable base from which to export. The full force of competitive winds blowing on Brazil's projected industry might reduce it to the dimensions perhaps proportionate to that of Chile. The paranoid suggest that this is what those in Europe and the States, who insist on the IMF taking a strong line, want, so as to prevent Brazil's industry becoming another Japan. The fundamental point, separating Brazil and the IMF is timing. The government now seems to have come to accept that massive sacrifices and adjustments have to be made, if the whole top heavy edifice is not to overwhelm the base which should sustain it. The IMF, in its normal way, wants the changes to be radical, and to be made as quickly as possible. But to insist on this, in the special case of Brazil, is proving a risky course. The amount of influential, and essentially conservative people who are either calling for, or would now tacitly accept, Brazil's declaring a unilateral moratorium, as an alternative to toeing the IMF line, has grown many times during the course of this year. Despite its being partly an artificial creation, most influential Brazilians are not prepared to stand by and watch the industrial structure built at such a high social and political cost in the past two decades, just wiped out.

Sultan who fell out with the Crown

The most startling thing about the Sultan of Brunei's decision to take his huge investment portfolio out of the hands of Britain's Crown Agents is not that it should have happened - but rather the manner in which it was achieved. To say that the break was sudden is to underestimate the case. According to those who were there, the first thing the Crown Agents knew about the end of their long-standing and indeed historic association with the Sultan (a link that goes back so many years that nobody at the Agents this week could find any record of when it began) was when they received an afternoon telex 10 days ago, informing them bluntly that they were being supplanted by the new independent Brunei Investment Agency. Within hours, the Sultan's men - already in London for talks with the Foreign Office about the Sultan's impending independence - arrived at the Crown Agents' offices to start the process of winding up and transferring the £3.5m worth of stocks, bonds and other funds. With them - and apparently reminiscent of those "minders" whose job it is to protect celebrities when they are exchanged - were the Sultan's more popular papers - were representatives of the two American banks, Morgan Guaranty and Citibank, which have now effectively replaced the Agents as the Sultan's chief investment advisers. For the Americans, the moment of triumph was doubtless one to savour. Morgan Guaranty in particular has been assiduous in lobbying the royal family in Brunei for a chance to manage a chunk of the country's burgeoning financial reserves. Even by today's inflated standards, winning control of a portfolio of more than £3bn (itself only 40 per cent of Brunei's total investment funds) is an undoubted banking coup. But for the Agents, on the other hand, the news is a bitter blow when they are only just beginning to find their feet again after the property investment disasters of the 1970s. The abrupt and insulting nature of their dismissal has been particularly galling.

Jonathan Davis

Financial notebook table with columns for Authorized Units & Insurance Funds, Bid, Offer, and Yield. Includes various fund names like '1.3.83 Paul Churchard' and '1.3.83 Paul Churchard'.

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# Wayne Lintoff on the complex moves to marry two conglomerates

## Corporate craftsmen struggled with textile giants' merger

More light has been shed on the financial pressures which led to the merger of Carrington Vyella and Vantona, the two textile companies, last February, the power struggle which took place between the chief executives of those companies, and the roles played by the banks and Britain's largest manufacturing company, Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI).

The British textile industry suffered a severe contraction during the 1970s caused principally by the strength of sterling, increased import penetration and the inherent inefficiency within the industry itself.

Carrington Vyella was a prime example. It borrowed to re-equip plant and borrowed more to cover trading shortfalls. Within three years from 1979 it notched up total losses of £60m neatly balanced by borrowings of more than £60m and had failed to pay any dividends for a token penny.

ICI was the largest shareholder with just less than 50 per cent of the stock. ICI had created the group from a merger in 1969 and was quickly told by the then Labour Government to cut its majority stake to 35 per cent. It could not find a buyer, settled at 49.36 per cent, but agreed not to use its voting power beyond the 35 per cent level.

In October 1980 ICI realized that Carrington was going to be a serious problem. It brought in Mr Bill Fieldhouse, chief executive of Letraset, to be part-time chairman and help sort out the mess. Mr Fieldhouse determined that Carrington would have to be taken over to survive and for that to happen a massive rationalization programme would have to be instigated.

So talks were implemented with Courtaulds, Britain's biggest independent textiles group. These went on for the following two years but proved fruitless, as much from personality differences between the executives involved as from any commercial incompatibility.

Meanwhile the rationalization programme in those two years had cut the workforce from 30,000 to 14,500 and substantially reduced losses from a peak £31m in 1980 to £3.7m by last year. But in 1982 the company's financial position was still precarious.

By the end of 1981 the lead bankers, led by Barclays and including National Westminster, Chase Manhattan, Royal

Bank of Canada and Citicorp, began, according to the sources, to get "twicely" and to "niggle" ICI about covering the debts.

Around the same time Sir James Spenser, ex-Rothschild banker and now Vantona chairman, began making tentative approaches which were rejected by Mr Fieldhouse who was still trying to find a chief executive for Carrington.

James Blith, an executive at Lucas Industries turned down the offer. And Mr Fieldhouse was becoming increasingly involved with Letraset where he was fighting off a bid and looking for a white knight.

Eventually Eslette of Sweden took over Letraset and paid off the directors with £1.6m. Controversy surrounded this and Mr Fieldhouse was widely rumoured to have received £700,000 though there are documents which suggest he received a cheque for a net £400,000. He has never commented on the pay-off.

So Mr Fieldhouse became chairman and chief executive of Carrington, on a five-year contract at £75,000 a year.

Five months later, in April last year serious discussions began with Vantona.

ICI supported the bid by Vantona but only from the standpoint of a minority shareholder. On April last year broad agreement was reached and by September 1 last year provisional agreement.

The major stumbling blocks were that Carrington could not takeover the smaller Vantona without maintaining ICI's involvement and losing its substantial tax credits.

Mr Fieldhouse wanted the top job, arguing that he had turned CV around and CV would be producing the early profits. Vantona was not prepared to encumber itself with CV's debt burden unless it was rescheduled on a more manageable basis.

A formula was worked out whereby CV would takeover Vantona's operating subsidiaries - thus maintaining the tax credits - while Vantona took over CV, allowing Vantona the breathing space to transfer business to CV plant while it reorganized its own problems under the umbrella of the combined group.

The banks, after some false starts rescheduled CV debts under very attractive terms. Vantona accepted the resche-

duling but insisted that it could not be expected to pay CV shareholders a dividend this year as well as meet the preference share payments to the bank.

So despite the fact that the profits paying Vantona shareholders a dividend was coming from the CV pot it was decided that Vantona would not pay a dividend to the 40 per cent share of the increased capital that was attributable to the old CV shareholders if earnings per share topped 16p.

Just two weeks ago the combined group announced interim pretax profits for the six months ended May 29 of £3.3m and met the "forecast" 3p dividend, but earnings per share were only 7.4p.

According to the documents *The Times* has, Vantona made an attributable loss of a meagre £55,000 in the 17 weeks ended March 2001 a pretax profit of only £71,000. CV, on the other hand, made £1,550,000 per tax dividend, but earnings per share were only 7.4p.

That left the power struggle. A letter signed by Sir James Spenser shows that he agreed to retire within two years to allow Mr Fieldhouse to takeover.

Mr Fieldhouse, dubious, insisted on an agreement that if this did not take place he would receive his five years' salary as compensation. It was here that Mr Fieldhouse was outmanoeuvred.

Vantona Bankers N M Rothschild said the secret deal must be disclosed in some form or another. It appeared in the offer document as a clause that should any dispute arise within two years Mr Fieldhouse would receive his five years' salary on resignation.

Because of the controversy surrounding Mr Fieldhouse's alleged payments from Eslette of Sweden objections to the clause were voiced at an extraordinary general meeting by minor shareholders.

Mr Fieldhouse publicly withdrew his demand for the clause but asserted his right to the chairmanship within two years.

At the next board meeting Mr Fieldhouse is alleged to have left the room accompanied by Sir James Spenser while Mr Fieldhouse's reelection was discussed. Vantona directors outnumbered CV directors by eight to seven. Mr Fieldhouse was not nominated for reelection.

The dispute continues between both sides' solicitors.

## Dividend row looms

A row is brewing between shareholders of Carrington Vyella and the new stablemate Vantona over 1983 dividend payments.

Accounts prepared for the combined Vantona Vyella division and given to *The Times* show Vantona making losses in the four months ended March and Carrington making profits in the four weeks ended March.

At the time of the agreed merger Vantona was believed to be the healthier of the two companies. This document shows that although Vantona had budgeted for a pre-tax profit of £1.2m - more than double that of the previous year - it actually made £71,000, after extraordinary items showed a loss of £55,000.

Carrington, whose fiscal year ended in December, made a loss of £1.4m in January and February but then made a pre-tax profit of £1.6m in the next five weeks and continued making similar profits over the next two months.

Under the terms of the original offer Vantona specified that it would not pay the projected 1983 total dividend of 8p on that part of its capital

which represented Carrington interests - around 40 per cent - unless earnings per share were 16p for the year.

At the interim stage, announced last week, earnings per share were only 7.4p. Former Carrington shareholders may therefore not get their dividend even though it is their side of the business which appears to be making the profits. However, there must also be doubt as to whether Carrington shareholders would have seen a dividend in 1983 had the merger not taken place.

Mr David Alliance, chief executive of Vantona Vyella and a substantial shareholder, and acknowledged that Vantona was aware of Carrington's projected return to profitability at the time of the merger, "which was why we went ahead with it."

He said the figures quoted were correct but meaningless - contrary to the views of leading textile analysts in the City - and that to suggest that the Vantona interests were trading at a loss was "absolute nonsense."

"The Carrington interests are trading profitably", he said, but he declined to reveal which side was contributing most.

## Director's companies to merge

Scottish Heritable Trust, the Glasgow based property to carpenter group is to buy a business which is nearly half-owned by its managing director for about £3m. It will be paid for by the issue of 6.25 million shares.

When Mr Robin Garland became managing director of Scottish Heritable a year ago, it was thought likely that he would eventually want to inject his private business interests into the publicly-quoted company.

Now terms have been agreed for the purchase of Claxton and Garland which owns a share and property portfolio and whose subsidiaries are engaged in sand and gravel quarrying and housebuilding. The company expects to make pre-tax profits this year of £400,000 after extraordinary costs of £105,000.

The vendors of Claxton and Garland will end up owning 37.5 per cent of Scottish Heritable as a result of the deal. But the City Panel on Takeovers and Mergers has already agreed to waive the requirement this could normally put on the vendors to make a bid for the whole of Scottish Heritable.

Claxton and Garland currently own over 1 million shares in Scottish Heritable and these will be placed along with nearly 1 million of the new shares to which the vendors become entitled.

Scottish Heritable has estimated that it will make pretax profits of not less than £250,000 in the half year to the end of next September and promises to pay same-gain dividends of 2p a share on the enlarged capital.

## Going gets rough but Thoroughbred stays in running

Thoroughbred Investment Company, the poor man's way into the bloodstock market, has fallen at the first fence but says the race is not lost yet.

Thoroughbred, launched two months ago with great publicity and with Lord Oaksey as chairman, has been handicapped by a distinct lack of interest among the big City institutions. The institutions had been asked to put up an initial £1m via a private placing of the shares. Demand at the beginning of June was so great that Rea Bros, which was handling the placings, had to order a reprint.

But yesterday Thoroughbred said it was returning all cheques uncashed to the applicants for the shares because there were insufficient subscribers. The company says that for "reasons not apparent to the managers" the institutions found the offer unattractive.

However, it adds that the response from ordinary punters who approached it directly was "extremely encouraging" so it is now making plans to offer its shares direct to the general public. Talks are now under way with its financial advisers and private investors to raise the first £1m it needs.

The idea of Thoroughbred was to get into the profitable bloodstock business by operating on similar lines to a unit trust. Investors would not have access to their money for the first 18 months as the company built up its bloodstock portfolio.

Shareholders would have a vote and would benefit from tax incentives. The plan was that they would apply to their stockbroker for shares. The broker would then put in his order before the revaluation of the net assets each quarter.

## Nova sales hit by Far East firms

Nova (Jersey) Knit Year to 31.3.82 Gross profit £229,000 (£703,000) Stated earnings 12.4p (24.2p) Turnover £8.1m (£9.2m) Net total dividend 4p (5.5p) Share price 74p, down 18p Yield 7.7%

Nova (Jersey) Knit, the company at the centre of the row about the closure of one of its factories while the workers were on holiday, has reported lower profits after being hit by Far East competition.

The attributable loss to its shareholders is more than £800,000, but this is more than offset by a property revaluation.

An extraordinary debit of more than £1.2m includes a £300,000 provision for the controversial move of production from South Wales to Nottingham.

Nova has worked out a combined management and production agreement with W E Saxby (Nottingham), a loss-making subsidiary of George Spencer. Both companies believe this rationalization will improve their performance against the Far East. Nova is a big supplier to Marks and Spencer which takes about 60 per cent of its production.

Nova may keep limited production in South Wales depending on the outcome of negotiations with the unions.

The extraordinary item also includes £892,000 for the reorganization of dyeing and finishing.

**P.T. ASTRA INTERNATIONAL, INCORPORATED**

**US\$25,000,000**

Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes 1986.

In accordance with the provisions of the Notes, notice is hereby given that for the Interest Period from 31st May 1983 to 30th November 1983 the Notes will carry an Interest Rate of 9 7/8% per annum. The Coupon Amount for this period for each principal amount of US\$250,000 is US\$2,494.01.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation  
Agent Bank

May 1983

**NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF EUROPEAN DEPOSITARY RECEIPTS (EDRs) IN NIPPON FIRE & MARINE INSURANCE CO., LTD.**

Further to our notice of March 18, 1983, EDR holders are informed that Nippon Fire & Marine has paid a dividend to holders of record March 31, 1983. The cash dividend payable is Yen 4.00 per Common Stock of Yen 20.00 per share. Pursuant to Clause 5 of the Deposit Agreement the Depositary has converted the net amount, after deduction of Japanese withholding taxes, into United States Dollars.

EDR holders may now present Coupon No. 9 for payment to the undermentioned agents:

Payment of the dividend with a 15% withholding tax is subject to receipt by the Depositary or the Agent of a valid affidavit of residence in a country bearing a tax treaty or agreement with Japan giving the benefit of the reduced withholding rate. Countries currently being such arrangements are as follows:

A.R. of Egypt	F.R. of Germany	The Netherlands	Spain
Australia	France	New Zealand	Sweden
Belgium	Italy	Norway	Switzerland
Canada	Japan	Portugal	United Kingdom
Denmark	Malaysia	Romania	U.S. of America
Finland	Philippines	Singapore	Zambia
France	Spain	South Africa	
Germany	Sweden		
Italy	Switzerland		
Japan	United Kingdom		
Malaysia	U.S. of America		
Philippines	Zambia		
Portugal			
Romania			
Singapore			
Spain			
Sweden			
Switzerland			
United Kingdom			
U.S. of America			
Zambia			

Accounting payable in respect of current dividends:

Coupon No. 9	Yen 4.00	US\$ 0.20	US\$ 0.20
Withholding tax	(0.60)	(0.03)	(0.03)
Net dividend	3.40	0.17	0.17
US\$ 100,000		17,000	17,000
US\$ 250,000		42,500	42,500
US\$ 500,000		85,000	85,000
US\$ 1,000,000		170,000	170,000
US\$ 2,500,000		425,000	425,000
US\$ 5,000,000		850,000	850,000
US\$ 10,000,000		1,700,000	1,700,000
US\$ 25,000,000		4,250,000	4,250,000
US\$ 50,000,000		8,500,000	8,500,000
US\$ 100,000,000		17,000,000	17,000,000
US\$ 250,000,000		42,500,000	42,500,000
US\$ 500,000,000		85,000,000	85,000,000
US\$ 1,000,000,000		170,000,000	170,000,000
US\$ 2,500,000,000		425,000,000	425,000,000
US\$ 5,000,000,000		850,000,000	850,000,000
US\$ 10,000,000,000		1,700,000,000	1,700,000,000

Agents:

London, U.K.	300, 295, 267
New York, N.Y.	123, 82, 64
San Francisco, U.S.A.	305, 295, 267

Depository: Citicorp, N.Y. Agent: Citicorp (London) Ltd., 200, Strand, London WC2R 1JH August 1983

# Barclays Bank

## Interim Statement for the half-year ended 30th June 1983

The Barclays Group profit before taxation for the half-year to 30th June 1983 is £262m. This is £26 million (11%) higher than it was in the first half of 1982 and £3 million higher than in the second half of 1982.

The Board has decided to pay on 12th October an interim dividend for the year ending 31st December 1983 of 11.5p per £1 Ordinary stock (an increase of 4.5% over the interim for 1982: 11.0p) in respect of stock registered in the books of the company at the close of business on 9th September 1983. This is equivalent to 16.4p gross on that stock. An interim dividend of 7p per £1 on the Staff stock will be paid at the same time to holders registered on 30th June 1983.

In the UK average base rate was 10.4% in the first half of 1983 compared to 13.4% in the first half of 1982 and 10.5% in the second half. Thus, despite increased volumes, net interest income fell reflecting lower overall spreads and increasing reliance on more expensive wholesale funds. Commission income improved and overheads have been contained, and our efforts in this direction were assisted by the welcome decline in inflation. In spite of the emerging economic recovery, we feel it

prudent to make substantial provision for bad and doubtful debts. Investment profits were much less than the exceptional profits we realised in the second half of 1982.

Most of the Group's other domestic operations have performed well, Barclaycard, Barclays Merchant Bank and the Trust Company reporting increased profits. Mercantile Credit's performance, however, was adversely affected by the downward trend in interest margins and a higher bad and doubtful debt charge.

The profit contribution of Barclays Bank International is higher than in both halves of 1982 and there has been a good recovery in trading performance. Net interest income, commission income and foreign exchange earnings have all risen. We feel it prudent to make a continuing high level of provisions in the United States and Asia, but overall results in the United States are better. Profits from most parts of the world where the Group operates are generally satisfactory.

Timothy Revan, Chairman, Barclays Bank PLC, 4th August 1983

## THE BARCLAYS GROUP CONSOLIDATED PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT (UNAUDITED) (Historic cost basis)

	Half-year ended 30th June 1983	Half-year ended 31st December 1982	Half-year ended 30th June 1982
	£m	£m	£m
Operating profit	262	256	231
Share of profit of associated companies	36	39	36
<b>Total Group profit</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>267</b>
Interest on loan capital	43	36	31
<b>Profit before taxation</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>236</b>
Taxation	75	64	67
<b>Profit after taxation</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>169</b>
Profit attributable to minority interests in subsidiary companies	22	18	17
<b>Profit attributable to members of Barclays Bank PLC</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>152</b>
Dividends	39	38	37
<b>Profit retained</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>Earnings per £1 Ordinary stock</b>	<b>48.4p</b>	<b>51.8p</b>	<b>44.9p</b>
<b>Dividends per £1 Ordinary stock</b>	<b>11.5p</b>	<b>11.0p</b>	<b>11.0p</b>

NOTES:

- The accounting policies are as explained on page 37 of the 1982 annual accounts.
- Analyses of total Group profit:

	Half-year ended 30.6.83	31.12.82	30.6.82
	£m	£m	£m
By nature of income/expense:			
Interest income	3,414	3,471	3,530
Interest expense	2,340	2,441	2,614
Net interest income	1,074	1,030	916
Other operating income	446	387	329
	1,520	1,417	1,245

- The amount charged against profit in respect of bad and doubtful debts comprises:

	Half-year ended 30.6.83	31.12.82	30.6.82
	£m	£m	£m
Charge for specific provisions	189	187	138
Charge/(credit) for general provisions	13	21	(16)
Reverses of amounts previously written off	(8)	(5)	(7)
	193	203	115

- The charge for taxation is based on an estimated effective rate for the year which assumes a UK corporation tax rate of 25%, and allows for the continued provision of 25% of the potential deferred taxation liability in respect of leasing transactions in the UK.
- Earnings per £1 Ordinary stock are based upon profit after taxation, minority interests and dividends on Staff stock, related to the Ordinary stock in issue during the half year.

	1983	1982	1981
Operating expenses:			
Staff	640	624	569
Property and equipment	180	177	153
Other	226	215	180
	1,046	1,016	902
Charge for bad and doubtful debts	455	401	343
	198	203	115
	262	198	228
Profits on realisation of investments	7	58	3
	269	256	231
Share of profit of associated companies	36	39	36
	305	295	267

By geographical area:

	1983	1982	1981
Domestic:			
Barclays Bank PLC	132	163	151
Barclays Merchant Bank Group	6	2	6
Mercantile Credit Group	17	20	22
Other domestic companies	27	28	24
	182	213	203
International:			
United Kingdom	19	13	12
United States	5	(12)	(25)
South Africa	47	46	32
Rest of the World	32	35	43
	103	82	64
	305	295	267

Registered Office: 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH. Registered No. 48839.





MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Dalgety shares slip 10p

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Aug. 1. Dealings end, Aug. 12. Contango Day, Aug. 15. Settlement Day, Aug. 22.

Speculation was increasing in the market last night that Dalgety, the international food group worth about £280m, was to pay Rank's Hovis McDougall £50m for its agricultural division.

The rumors wiped 10p from Dalgety at 364p, after 363p. "If that is the rumour in the market then so be it", said Mr James Stirling, company secretary.

With Dalgety's debts standing at about 75 per cent of shareholders funds in the last annual report and accounts the market fears the group may be forced to seek more money from the market.

Dalgety has had more than its fair share of troubles in recent years and last year's drought in Australia saw the profits contribution from there whittled away from £4.5m to just £1.7m, during the first half to December.

This was also partly responsible for the dip from £19.6m to £18.1m of group profits overall in the first half.

Shares of RHM ended the day 1p higher at 73p, after 72p, with the board remaining tight lipped about the story.

The rest of the equity market

staged an impressive performance in the wake of the crumbling pound on the foreign exchange. At times the sterling was 2.5 cent lower against a strong dollar, before ending the

Shares of Courtauld continue to enjoy their ratings, surging 7p to a new high of 104p yesterday. Broker W Greenwell, who has just published their first circular on the group in a long time, are looking for a pre-tax of £85m, against £63m.

The latest man-made fibre production figures show an increase of 37.4 per cent in the past year.

day 2 cent down to \$1.4865. But equities stood their ground with the FT index, trading unchanged for most of the day and closing with a fall of 2.0 to 723.6.

Gilts also shrugged off the bad news on the money markets reducing earlier falls of about

£1/2 to close virtually unchanged on overnight levels.

Leading equities closed mixed with Glaxo up 5p at 935p and BTR unchanged at 539p, but falls were seen in Plessey 4p to 629p and Hawker Siddeley 4p to 314p.

Oil shares were steady with BP unchanged at 404p, as Shell, a firm market of late, jumped 14p to 600p amid reports that the Soviet Union was raising its price for crude oil.

Among the second line oil stocks, Atlantic Resources was the star performer leaping 98p to 296p still awaiting news of a big oil find in the Irish Sea. Moray Fish with a stake in the venture rose 17p to 48p and Aran Energy drilling in an adjacent field at Atlantic rose 8p to 198p.

Mr David Wiggins of British Car Auctions and Mr Michael Ascroft of Hawley Group own between them a stake of 25 per cent on Cope Allman.

They have picked up some

shares from the Dowable Consortium which owned 20 per cent of Cope after an abortive bid. Both Mr Wiggins and Mr Ascroft were linked with Dowable, if Cope's profits reach the forecast £2.6m -

per cent of Cope after an abortive bid. Both Mr Wiggins and Mr Ascroft were linked with Dowable, if Cope's profits reach the forecast £2.6m -

Brokers Charles Stanley are recommending shares of Strong International as a strong buy. Analyst Mr Peter Bennett says that unless the currency factor goes horribly wrong pretax profits will show a substantial improvement on last year's £140.5m.

He says: "Even with the takeover speculation stripped out the shares represent good value for money". The shares slipped 2p to 113p yesterday.

which they should easily - the strategic stake looks valuable. If not, the dynamic duo can bid again as 8000 as the takeover rules allow.

Shares of Polytechnic Marine encountered its first bout of

profit-taking since joining the Unlisted Securities Market on Tuesday sliding 5p to 24p. But the shares are still almost double the 110p brokers Simons & Coates placed them at recently. At this level the group which makes sophisticated electronic navigation equipment is valued at £17.8m.

Aaronite, another newcomer to the USM this week, also showed signs of running out of steam closing unchanged at 140p, after 141p. The 1.3 million shares in this fire protection group were placed by brokers Rowe & Pitman at 115p.

Shares of builders merchant UBMA Group added a further 3p to a new high of 96p, at one stage yesterday, on renewed bid talk. But the shares later met profit-taking to close 2p lower on the day at 91p. Pilkington Glass, the favourite contender to make a bid, has already denied interest.

Shares of S Pearson, publisher of the Financial Times, celebrated the end of the nine-week strike, which has kept the paper off the streets, with a jump in the share price of 11p to 343p. The strike is thought to have cost about £10m.

RECENT ISSUES table with columns for issue name, price, and other details.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns for fund name, price, and other details.

1982/83 High/Low Company Price table with columns for company name, price, and other details.

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN table with columns for company name, price, and other details.

DOLLAR STOCKS table with columns for company name, price, and other details.

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS table with columns for bank name, price, and other details.

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES table with columns for company name, price, and other details.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL table with columns for company name, price, and other details.

1982/83 High/Low Company Price table (continued).

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Shipping table with columns for ship name, company, and other details.

Mines table with columns for company name, price, and other details.

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Sterling: Spot and Forward

Table showing Sterling spot and forward rates for various locations like New York, London, etc.

Money Market Rates

Table showing Money Market Rates for clearing banks and overnight bills.

Other Markets

Table showing Other Markets including Australia, Finland, Hong Kong, etc.

Dollar Spot Rates

Table showing Dollar Spot Rates for various countries like Ireland, Netherlands, etc.

Euro-Dollars

Table showing Euro-Dollars for various banks and maturities.

Gold

Table showing Gold prices.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table showing Financial Trusts including various investment companies.

INSURANCE

Table showing Insurance companies and their shares.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table showing Investment Trusts including various asset management funds.

PROPERTY

Table showing Property listings and prices.

RUBBER

Table showing Rubber market prices.

TEA

Table showing Tea market prices.

MISCELLANEOUS

Table showing Miscellaneous market prices.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table showing Unlisted Securities.

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# Reagan's IMF Bill scrapes through

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The House of Representatives handed President Reagan a narrow victory when it approved legislation for a special \$8.4bn contribution to the International Monetary Fund.

The controversial legislation was passed by 217 to 211 votes on Wednesday night.

The Republican-controlled Senate has already approved, in a different Bill, the increase in the United States' contribution to assist debt-stricken developing countries.

The issue now goes before a House-Senate conference committee where differences in the details of the two bills will have to be reconciled.

President Reagan had taken a personal role in lobbying for the House bill by calling Congressmen leaders to the White House.

Mr Reagan said that the vote was beneficial both to world economic stability and to United States national interests.

First, it means that the United States will be able to meet its international responsibilities. Secondly, the IMF can

### Reagan last-minute phone calls

continue assisting the large debt nations to return to a firm economic foundation. And finally, because America is the largest trading nation in the world, this vote is very important to tens of American production and jobs.

Earlier a grass-roots Republican-Democrat coalition nearly stopped the bill going through.

The bill's opponents ranged from Conservatives, who saw the bill as a bail-out for the big banks, to those who have traditionally opposed measures involving aid.

The House, which has a Democratic majority, defeated a series of amendments aimed at crippling the measure.

# China holds surplus but neglects investment

By John Lawless

China's half-year trade figures published yesterday show that the country is still building up a solid surplus - but is not spending its cash on large scale manufacturing investment.

A surplus of \$2.42bn (£1.5bn) in the first six months of this year mirrored that of the same period last year. But complete plant was among the main import categories to record another fall.

Increasing foreign purchases of raw materials and commodities show that China is still a long way away from industrial investment which caused so much interest among western exporters four years ago.

The Ministry of Foreign Trade expects imports of \$2.4bn to exceed exports by \$2bn. But a growing amount of imported foreign technology and equipment will be needed for offshore oilfields.

A factor which could be delaying the order of more new factories is probably a lack of well-trained managers able to exploit them to capacity.

British exports to China rose from \$37.3m in the first five months of last year to \$49.7m in the same period this year.

# Advantage to boy from Zimbabwe Young Byrons prepared to grow up as a champion

At the start of this week's attractively staged annual open tennis tournament at West Ham, Doug Kirk, the man in charge of Britain's 12 and under group, told again the story of a young English boy once studied on by a well-known coach as a likely Wimbledon winner.

Medical tests suggested the lad was going to be tall and powerful, his flair and feel for the game were already there for all to see. He was sent to one professional for his forehand, another for his backhand, the idea being that he would be guided only by the leading authority on each stroke.

Everything went according to plan until suddenly, some six months after the scheme had started, the boy put down his racket and said he had had enough. "Ia other words," Kirk said, "he had allowed for everything except the fact that he was human."

Four leading young British boys of the moment, all of whom will be taking part in the national age group championships which start next Monday at Eastbourne, have been selected to live in during term time at the Lawn Tennis Association's National Tennis Centre at Bisham Abbey.

Though Kirk sees the advantage of such a scheme - more tennis and more schooling - he is glad that he has not had to single out any of his girls for such special treatment.

He describes his own squad of eight girls as "good". Julie Donovan, aged 12, is just back from France where she won the plate event in her age group in the European junior championships.

After 16 years as a coach, he appreciates that, in spite of the Chris Lloyd and Tracy Austin of this world, the winners at 12 and under 14 and under levels do not always go on to shine at a later age.



Byron Black: delighting crowds

The boys' winner at 14 and under level at Winchester was Byron Black, a tiny 13-year-old from Zimbabwe who is now delighting spectators at West Ham before moving on with his national squad to Eastbourne.

Though his father, who played for Rhodesia and is now a coach, had single-handed strokes, young Byroo is double-handed on both wings.

Though he has two grass courts in his own back garden, Kirk asserts that it is the fact that he is prepared to get up and play at 5.30 every morning which has made him outstanding at this age.

As Kirk says, Black sees the ball early and has been able to outdrive and outwit his British counterparts. "He is showing them up at the moment," Kirk says.

It is little surprising that at a time when he is poised to lift Santos Lacar's WBA title that Wallace should be putting his No 4 WBA ranking at risk for Diaz could be to a Magri on him. But then Wallace, like the Mexican, loves a good fight.

The hard man from Gorseinon with a knockout punch in either hand said yesterday in Las Vegas: "Last time I was a little rusty, this time I'll be better. I hope to set a quicker pace. This strategy may prove wiser in the outdoor ring of the Dunes hotel car park unprotected from the intense heat of the Nevada sun."

The bout should, however, prove the right kind of appetizer for Warren's next show on September 14, the Alexander Pavilion sell-out Gumbus against Kaylor, for the British Commonwealth middleweight title.

Another man who is out warring time is Colin Jones, of Wales, who he meets Milton McCroly, of the United States, in Las Vegas, on August 13 for the world welterweight title.

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## BOXING

# Monkey move to corner Magri

By Srikanar San Boxing Correspondent

Keith Wallace, Britain's Commonwealth flyweight champion with his been out of the gym for four months, is wasting no more time in training. His manager, Charlie Magri, and his world title...

Wallace opens his season on September 1 by taking on the tough Mexican, Juan "Little Monkey" Diaz, who has won Magri two years ago. If Wallace can give Diaz the kind of pasting that Magri was giving him before Magri hit the floor in the sixth round, the Liverpool boxer will be rated in the top 10 by the world press.

Wallace, who has been back to training a week, said yesterday: "When I fight Diaz I'm going to avenge Charlie and show the world that the best small boxers come from Britain. Diaz is strong and a finish well but he won't catch me with any of those wild swings."

It is a hard opener for Wallace. The Little Monkey, who served an apprenticeship to Lee Davis, was in Mexico City, where they box for excessive caution if you dare to throw a jab instead of a hook, just how it will be. He would probably be upset if you did not hit him", Wallace said.

It is little surprising that at a time when he is poised to lift Santos Lacar's WBA title that Wallace should be putting his No 4 WBA ranking at risk for Diaz could be to a Magri on him. But then Wallace, like the Mexican, loves a good fight.

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# Mitsubishi and Volkswagen in talks over production deals Chrysler ready for joint venture

Detroit (NYT) - Less than three years ago, Mr Lee Iacocca, chairman of the Chrysler Corporation, was under heavy pressure from the federal government to find a merger partner.

Mr Iacocca, chairman of Volkswagen, has been meeting him to discuss what Mr Iacocca described as possible cooperation in North America and elsewhere.

Mr Iacocca said that he had made little secret that one aspect of that strategy will be arrangements, probably joint ventures, rather than actual mergers, with manufacturing companies.

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Chrysler has a history of dealings with the big German company. The engines for the Omni-Horizon cars were originally supplied by Volkswagen before Chrysler switched to Peugeot. VW's plant in Westmoreland was purchased from Chrysler, and Chrysler sold its operations in Brazil and Argentina to Volkswagen.

Chrysler has also established ties with Peugeot and Mitsubishi through its purchase of 15 per cent of the stock in both of those companies.

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# The master of tennis ceremonial brings a bygone era to life

By Rex Bellamy

Ted Tinsling is the embodiment of tennis history; that part of it, anyway, which concerns the glossy and glamorous world of the international elite.

Tinsling is larger than life. He is a man who played Henry Cochet, Bill Tilden and Lew Hoad; who regards Jimmy Connors as the modern counterpart of Fred Perry; who draws parallels between Billie Jean King and Martina Navratilova.

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## TENNIS

# Bassett is troubled by illness

Indianapolis (Reuters) - Carling Bassett, of Canada, was taken to hospital with abdominal pains though she has been ranked as the 590,000-dollar (£393,000) US clay court champion.

Miss Bassett had cramp and breathing problems before and during the match, to which she lost 11 of the last 13 games.

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EQUESTRIANISM

Cash rewarded by horse of great presence

From Jenny MacArthur, Dublin.

Ned Cash, from Meath, one of Ireland's biggest dealers, gained his first championship at the Dublin Horse Show yesterday when his outstanding four-year-old heavyweight gelding, Standing Ovation, ridden by his wife, Frances, took the Supreme Hunter championship. He was also awarded the trophy for the best four-year-old.

The seven horses in the first jump-off all went clear and had to fight it out against the clock. Smith set the target to beat with a clear round in 41.3sec. But Mellinger then overtook this to finish in a time of 39.12sec.

Capt Brian Fanshawe, who judged the Supreme championship with the four-year-old and Tub Ivens, commented afterwards that the winner had given him a particularly good ride. Although the judges spent some time riding the chestnut, Byeway, a son of Highaway, they were unanimous in their decision to give Standing Ovation the Supreme award of presence.

Bred by Michael Daly in Kerry, Standing Ovation was hunted lightly with the Westmeath after Christmas and was then bought by Mr Cash in April.

Michael Hickey's four-year-old, Templetown, a son of Laurence O, took the lightweight championship and was Reserve for the four-year-old. However, in the overall championships he seemed reluctant to gallop on and did not give the judges as generous a ride as the others.

Mr Tatlow and Dick Saunders had a difficult task in the middleweight championship deciding between these two four-year-olds, Mr T J Quigley's Royal Request, by Young Golden, and Mrs Jody McCusker's Royal Request, the horse which had stood above standing

Seeking a slice of Brighton night life

The Brighton executive, with a five per cent increase in attendance for the three-day August meeting which ended yesterday, is seriously considering an application to the Jockey Club to bring evening racing back.

Concider Frank Macfield, Baker, chairman of the racecourse, which is owned by Brighton Corporation, said: "I'm interested in getting more people through the turnstiles. An evening fixture would mean more people working during the day, as well as holidaymakers. I'd like to see a festival meeting here, with racing, a bar, music and dancing."

"If you don't have something, you never have it, and it's time to have another go with evening racing. We're looking at the future light of a suitable date. One thing we have to avoid is a clash with greyhound racing at Hove."

Meanwhile, Willie Carson, just before his appeal against his eight-year suspension by the Jockey Club, was heard today, took his score to 99 for the season on 14-1 chance Frisky Wharf, trained by John Dunlop, in the Black Rock Maiden Stakes. Despite the Jockey Club's suspension, some bookmakers opened their betting at 50-1 against the Armadillo colt, then led 33-1 and 20-1. With the runner-up by two lengths, Basset Boy 10-1 chance.

The Tote dual forecast produced a £37.60 dividend from a one-pound stake.

After this, Carson remained in the nervous niceties. He was third on Kelly's Star behind the narrow winner, Taxibul, in the Ringier Stakes; third on Sharpe's Wimpy in the Brighton Sprint Handicap, won by the 5-2 favourite, Roman Ruler.

RACING: COLTS DUEL FOR STUD HONOURS

A clash between Diesis and Horage in the Hungerford Stakes at Newbury next Friday will enliven a dull period in the racing calendar between Goodwood and York.

Diesis was the top-rated two-year-old in last year's Free Handicap following successive victories in the Middle Park Stakes and the Dewhurst Stakes, but Horage was the two-year-old who probably won most friends within the racing community as a whole by winning nine of his 10 races, including the Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot, the July Stakes at Newmarket and the Gimcrack Stakes at York. Not unlike Soba, Horage became something of a folk hero last year.

Sadly, things have not gone well for Horage this season: although, with a victory at Royal Ascot to his credit, he has done better than most of those around him at the top of the European Free Handicap. It was that handicap that Diesis headed last year, but this year, first, stiffness in his shoulders, then a pulled muscle in his quarters, and finally a cut from a flint on the outside of a joint, conspired to leave his attempt to win the 2,000 Guineas in tatters. To make matters worse, Diesis was then beaten in a race at Kempton which he started as 3-1 on favourite.

Troublingly similar tales of woe have dogged Saint Cyrien and Danzatore, the leading two-year-olds in France and Ireland last season. But, whereas they have already been retired to stud, Diesis is out to reestablish himself before he retires eventually to the Mill Ridge Farm on the outskirts of Lexington, Kentucky.

McCormack explains. So Horage was kept for the Hungerford Stakes, even though it was considerably less important. McCormack sees the Newbury race as the ideal springboard from which to launch an assault on the Prix du Moulin de Longchamp on September 4. As it is a group one race, the French event is of great importance to both McCormack and Horage's owner, Ahmed Rachid, as they begin to contemplate the colt's long-term future at stud.

So far, Horage has only group two races to his credit. A victory in a group one race would increase his already considerable value still further in the eyes of the international bloodstock world.

The Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot, later in September, is another race on Horage's agenda. All the while, his owner remains open to offers for Horage, thinking of a life at stud for the horse just so long as he can retain a share of the 2,000 Guineas. "He is in superb form. I could not be more happy with him", was his encouraging bulletin yesterday. McCormack has no regrets about not running Horage in the Sussex Stakes at Goodwood last week, even though, to some, it would have seemed his natural target.

McCormack simply did not think that it was the right track for him and his owner stood by him.

Horage and Diesis striving to regain two-year-old brilliance

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Lingfield Park

Draw advantage: high numbers best

2.0 DORMANLAND HANDICAP (2,544; 1m 20) (10 runners)

1 00000 SIBLING LAUREL (P) (P) Taryn M B Waring 4-9-2 13 1/2  
2 00000 AMBER STEVE (K) (K) B Waring 4-9-2 13 1/2  
3 00000 LITTLE ROSE (P) (P) Vignos 4-8-1 12 1/2  
4 00000 OFF THE CLIFF (K) (K) Waring 4-8-1 12 1/2  
5 00000 LONIC SCRAP (K) (K) Waring 4-8-1 12 1/2  
6 00000 LONIC SCRAP (K) (K) Waring 4-8-1 12 1/2  
7 00000 LONIC SCRAP (K) (K) Waring 4-8-1 12 1/2  
8 00000 LONIC SCRAP (K) (K) Waring 4-8-1 12 1/2  
9 00000 LONIC SCRAP (K) (K) Waring 4-8-1 12 1/2  
10 00000 LONIC SCRAP (K) (K) Waring 4-8-1 12 1/2

2.30 HAMMERWOOD STAKES (2-y-o colts; £2,445; 7f) (17)

1 00000 BARRY SHREVE (K) (K) Ferguson 11-11-11 11 1/2  
2 00000 BARRY SHREVE (K) (K) Ferguson 11-11-11 11 1/2  
3 00000 BARRY SHREVE (K) (K) Ferguson 11-11-11 11 1/2  
4 00000 BARRY SHREVE (K) (K) Ferguson 11-11-11 11 1/2  
5 00000 BARRY SHREVE (K) (K) Ferguson 11-11-11 11 1/2  
6 00000 BARRY SHREVE (K) (K) Ferguson 11-11-11 11 1/2  
7 00000 BARRY SHREVE (K) (K) Ferguson 11-11-11 11 1/2  
8 00000 BARRY SHREVE (K) (K) Ferguson 11-11-11 11 1/2  
9 00000 BARRY SHREVE (K) (K) Ferguson 11-11-11 11 1/2  
10 00000 BARRY SHREVE (K) (K) Ferguson 11-11-11 11 1/2

3.00 GONSTONE STAKES (2-y-o colts; £2,330; 7f) (15)

1 00000 APPLAIDE (P) (P) G Crowe 8-11 8 1/2  
2 00000 APPLAIDE (P) (P) G Crowe 8-11 8 1/2  
3 00000 APPLAIDE (P) (P) G Crowe 8-11 8 1/2  
4 00000 APPLAIDE (P) (P) G Crowe 8-11 8 1/2  
5 00000 APPLAIDE (P) (P) G Crowe 8-11 8 1/2  
6 00000 APPLAIDE (P) (P) G Crowe 8-11 8 1/2  
7 00000 APPLAIDE (P) (P) G Crowe 8-11 8 1/2  
8 00000 APPLAIDE (P) (P) G Crowe 8-11 8 1/2  
9 00000 APPLAIDE (P) (P) G Crowe 8-11 8 1/2  
10 00000 APPLAIDE (P) (P) G Crowe 8-11 8 1/2

3.55 NEWMARKET EXHIBITIONS HANDICAP (1,870; 6f) (13)

1 2000 AZAM (P) (P) O'Garra 5-11 5 1/2  
2 2000 RHYTHM (P) (P) O'Garra 5-11 5 1/2  
3 2000 RHYTHM (P) (P) O'Garra 5-11 5 1/2  
4 2000 RHYTHM (P) (P) O'Garra 5-11 5 1/2  
5 2000 RHYTHM (P) (P) O'Garra 5-11 5 1/2  
6 2000 RHYTHM (P) (P) O'Garra 5-11 5 1/2  
7 2000 RHYTHM (P) (P) O'Garra 5-11 5 1/2  
8 2000 RHYTHM (P) (P) O'Garra 5-11 5 1/2  
9 2000 RHYTHM (P) (P) O'Garra 5-11 5 1/2  
10 2000 RHYTHM (P) (P) O'Garra 5-11 5 1/2

4.00 MORTWARY HANDICAP (selling; £1,522; 1m 40yd) (14 runners)

1 2002 KILPATRICK (P) (P) M McKeown 4-8-10 4 1/2  
2 2002 KILPATRICK (P) (P) M McKeown 4-8-10 4 1/2  
3 2002 KILPATRICK (P) (P) M McKeown 4-8-10 4 1/2  
4 2002 KILPATRICK (P) (P) M McKeown 4-8-10 4 1/2  
5 2002 KILPATRICK (P) (P) M McKeown 4-8-10 4 1/2  
6 2002 KILPATRICK (P) (P) M McKeown 4-8-10 4 1/2  
7 2002 KILPATRICK (P) (P) M McKeown 4-8-10 4 1/2  
8 2002 KILPATRICK (P) (P) M McKeown 4-8-10 4 1/2  
9 2002 KILPATRICK (P) (P) M McKeown 4-8-10 4 1/2  
10 2002 KILPATRICK (P) (P) M McKeown 4-8-10 4 1/2

4.30 LADY HILL STAKES (2-y-o colts; £1,853; 7f 40yd) (5)

1 002 ATTEMPT (P) (P) H 6-11 6 1/2  
2 002 ATTEMPT (P) (P) H 6-11 6 1/2  
3 002 ATTEMPT (P) (P) H 6-11 6 1/2  
4 002 ATTEMPT (P) (P) H 6-11 6 1/2  
5 002 ATTEMPT (P) (P) H 6-11 6 1/2

Brighton results

6.00 ALFRED DOUGLAS (P) (P) M McCormack 3-8-10 3 1/2  
7.00 STARAVIA (P) (P) M McCormack 3-8-10 3 1/2  
8.00 STARAVIA (P) (P) M McCormack 3-8-10 3 1/2  
9.00 STARAVIA (P) (P) M McCormack 3-8-10 3 1/2  
10.00 STARAVIA (P) (P) M McCormack 3-8-10 3 1/2

7.50 RICHMOND HANDICAP (2-y-o colts; £2,973; 7f) (6)

1 4012 ANYTHING ELSE (P) (P) Hannon 9-11 9 1/2  
2 4012 ANYTHING ELSE (P) (P) Hannon 9-11 9 1/2  
3 4012 ANYTHING ELSE (P) (P) Hannon 9-11 9 1/2  
4 4012 ANYTHING ELSE (P) (P) Hannon 9-11 9 1/2  
5 4012 ANYTHING ELSE (P) (P) Hannon 9-11 9 1/2  
6 4012 ANYTHING ELSE (P) (P) Hannon 9-11 9 1/2

8.00 ISLEHAM STAKES (2-y-o colts; £3,568; 7f) (21)

1 0 ALPHE STRONG (P) (P) Armstrong 9-0 9  
2 0 ALPHE STRONG (P) (P) Armstrong 9-0 9  
3 0 ALPHE STRONG (P) (P) Armstrong 9-0 9  
4 0 ALPHE STRONG (P) (P) Armstrong 9-0 9  
5 0 ALPHE STRONG (P) (P) Armstrong 9-0 9  
6 0 ALPHE STRONG (P) (P) Armstrong 9-0 9  
7 0 ALPHE STRONG (P) (P) Armstrong 9-0 9  
8 0 ALPHE STRONG (P) (P) Armstrong 9-0 9  
9 0 ALPHE STRONG (P) (P) Armstrong 9-0 9  
10 0 ALPHE STRONG (P) (P) Armstrong 9-0 9

3.0 BRIGHTON HANDICAP (2,455; 8f)

1 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
2 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
3 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
4 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
5 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
6 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
7 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
8 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
9 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
10 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2

3.30 BRIGHTON SUMMER HANDICAP (2,541; 1m 20)

1 00000 GERARD (P) (P) by Spidder 11-11-11 11 1/2  
2 00000 GERARD (P) (P) by Spidder 11-11-11 11 1/2  
3 00000 GERARD (P) (P) by Spidder 11-11-11 11 1/2  
4 00000 GERARD (P) (P) by Spidder 11-11-11 11 1/2  
5 00000 GERARD (P) (P) by Spidder 11-11-11 11 1/2  
6 00000 GERARD (P) (P) by Spidder 11-11-11 11 1/2  
7 00000 GERARD (P) (P) by Spidder 11-11-11 11 1/2  
8 00000 GERARD (P) (P) by Spidder 11-11-11 11 1/2  
9 00000 GERARD (P) (P) by Spidder 11-11-11 11 1/2  
10 00000 GERARD (P) (P) by Spidder 11-11-11 11 1/2

4.00 CLIFFVILLE STAKES (maiden; £1,199; 1m 20)

1 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
2 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
3 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
4 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
5 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
6 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
7 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
8 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
9 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2  
10 00000 BRIGHTON (P) (P) Roman Waring 11-11-11 11 1/2

4.30 CASTLE HILL STAKES (maiden; £2,250; 1m 21)

1 000 EASY LISTENING (P) (P) C Macdonald 4-8-8 4 1/2  
2 000 EASY LISTENING (P) (P) C Macdonald 4-8-8 4 1/2  
3 000 EASY LISTENING (P) (P) C Macdonald 4-8-8 4 1/2  
4 000 EASY LISTENING (P) (P) C Macdonald 4-8-8 4 1/2  
5 000 EASY LISTENING (P) (P) C Macdonald 4-8-8 4 1/2

Redcar

2.15 STAINTONDALE STAKES (3-y-o; selling; £314; 1m 1f) (9 runners)

1 00000 BUY INTEREST (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
2 00000 BUY INTEREST (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
3 00000 BUY INTEREST (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
4 00000 BUY INTEREST (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
5 00000 BUY INTEREST (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
6 00000 BUY INTEREST (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
7 00000 BUY INTEREST (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
8 00000 BUY INTEREST (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
9 00000 BUY INTEREST (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9

2.45 PAT PHOENIX HANDICAP (2,316; 7f) (6)

1 00000 NORTHROP (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
2 00000 NORTHROP (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
3 00000 NORTHROP (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
4 00000 NORTHROP (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
5 00000 NORTHROP (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9  
6 00000 NORTHROP (P) (P) G L J Dunnington 9-0 9

3.15 RADIO TEES HANDICAP (2,124; 2m 11f) (5)

1 00000 HIGHWAY OREY (P) (P) Chapman 7-8-4 7 1/2  
2 00000 HIGHWAY OREY (P) (P) Chapman 7-8-4 7 1/2  
3 00000 HIGHWAY OREY (P) (P) Chapman 7-8-4 7 1/2  
4 00000 HIGHWAY OREY (P) (P) Chapman 7-8-4 7 1/2  
5 00000 HIGHWAY OREY (P) (P) Chapman 7-8-4 7 1/2

3.45 J.B. ROBERTSON STAKES (3-y-o maidens; £1,530; 1m 4f) (8)

1 00000 THE QUEEN'S MEN (P) (P) Theodores M Lambert 9-0 9  
2 00000 THE QUEEN'S MEN (P) (P) Theodores M Lambert 9-0 9  
3 00000 THE QUEEN'S MEN (P) (P) Theodores M Lambert 9-0 9  
4 00000 THE QUEEN'S MEN (P) (P) Theodores M Lambert 9-0 9  
5 00000 THE QUEEN'S MEN (P) (P) Theodores M Lambert 9-0 9  
6 00000 THE QUEEN'S MEN (P) (P) Theodores M Lambert 9-0 9  
7 00000 THE QUEEN'S MEN (P) (P) Theodores M Lambert 9-0 9  
8 00000 THE QUEEN'S MEN (P) (P) Theodores M Lambert 9-0 9

4.15 HARRY ANDREWS MAP STAKES (2-y-o; £1,942; 7f) (8)

1 00000 NIMBLE (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
2 00000 NIMBLE (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
3 00000 NIMBLE (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
4 00000 NIMBLE (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
5 00000 NIMBLE (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
6 00000 NIMBLE (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
7 00000 NIMBLE (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
8 00000 NIMBLE (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9

4.45 '257' STAKES (2-y-o; maiden fillies; £1,759; 6f) (11)

1 00000 BARRON (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
2 00000 BARRON (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
3 00000 BARRON (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
4 00000 BARRON (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
5 00000 BARRON (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
6 00000 BARRON (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
7 00000 BARRON (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
8 00000 BARRON (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
9 00000 BARRON (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9  
10 00000 BARRON (P) (P) M Hannon 9-0 9

Course for the brave

Mark Phillips, who has planned and designed his first cross-country course at Gatoombe Park Estate, will put it to the test this afternoon hoping to show riders competing in the Croft Original horse trials championships just how it should be ridden.

BOWLS

Lamdin nerve holds

Dick Lamdin, an England player from the Woking area, made a fine recovery to beat John George, of County Arts, Norwich, 21-20 in the Bournemouth open tournament at Mayrick Park yesterday. It puts him into the last 16 this morning, when he plays another international, Tom Armstrong, from Carlisle.

George found his length straightaway, dictated the position of the mat, and established a 10-1 lead. Slowly Lamdin's touch returned, and with it the accuracy without which a bowler is a lost soul on greens-as fast as these. George was able to relax less and less, and although he went ahead again, 20-18, at a telling time, Lamdin kept his nerve and at the last end planned a "killer" wood on top of the jack that set George a next-to-impossible task.

The expanding age range of the game was illustrated by the match in which Jimmy Davidson beat Lawrence Pull 21-14. Davidson, a former national singles champion and something of a local celebrity, is 56. Pull, a member of a well-known family, is 40 years younger. Davidson drew on his experience in the second half of their contest. The fact that he needed to was a tribute to Pull.

Is there life after the sporting cliché

Deadly hunt for the ultimate accolade

The obituaries of sportsmen are among my favourite reading. Every time I see one I ask myself: is there sport after death? If I hear on the grapevine that there is not, I shall cheer. But if I hear that there is, I shall not take his money with him, replied: "In that case I'm not going."

There is nothing like the death of a former Test cricketer to set people reminiscing. They don't bat like last any more. "Do you remember his century before lunch at Taunton in 1927?" or "He'd turn in his grave if he could see the way England played now." I suppose that to a certain cast of mind the Elysian fields are inconceivable without a cricket pitch. Moreover, it would be possible, if not desirable, to occupy the crease there for ever, for all tests would be timeless. And in those surroundings the Ashes would assume a new meaning.

If you dig hard enough for it, there is any amount of death in sport. In rugby, Murrayfield has been called the "graveyard" of Welsh hopes, although usually it is Scotland who are buried. Seals at Henley occasionally appear in print as "skulls". Headline writers are fond of trumpeting a "black out" or the death of somebody's hopes. "Wary of recording that fact and Jill went there for ever, for all tests would be timeless. And in those surroundings the Ashes would assume a new meaning."

Turning with a hollow laugh to the "skull", we enter the "nether region" or "battlefield" of "massacre" and "slaughter". So many "skulls" have been "massacred" or "slaughtered" that it is difficult to keep track of them.

Gordon Allan

Haydock Park

Draw advantage: low numbers best

7.30 BURTONWOOD BREWERY HANDICAP (3-y-o colts; £1,184; 7f 40yd) (6)

1 0010 ZAHANDAR M Stoupe 9-7 9 1/2  
2 0010 KELLATA F Durr 8-10 8 1/2  
3 0010 KELLATA F Durr 8-10 8 1/2  
4 0010 KELLATA F Durr 8-10 8 1/2  
5 0010 KELLATA F Durr 8-10 8 1/2  
6 0010 KELLATA F Durr 8-10 8 1/2

8.0 LILBURNE HANDICAP (2-y-o colts; £1,797; 6f) (7)

1 0001 BENZ (P) (P) M Hannon 9-7 9 1/2  
2 0001 BENZ (P) (P) M Hannon 9-7 9 1/2  
3 0001 BENZ (P) (P) M Hannon 9-7 9 1/2  
4 0001 BEN





















A boy running away yesterday after presenting the Queen Mother with a gift (above) with Princess Margaret, the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales and Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones looking on. Below, the Coldstream Guards march past. Photographs: John Voss.

### Admirers sing for 'their' Queen Mother

By David Nicholson-Lord

Eighty-three may not be the most rounded of numbers, but for the loyal admirers of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother it proved no obstacle to celebration yesterday. Hundreds of them turned up in the sunshine outside the gates of Clarence House to wish her happy birthday.

By 11am the crowd had swelled to 2,000 and a cheer went up as she appeared at the balcony. She then went down to meet them, receiving bouquets and poses from 30 children - and one or two adults - and watching the band of the Coldstream Guards march past playing "Happy Birthday" on the pipes and drums. The crowd, of course, joined in.

For the Queen Mother it was a typical royal great-grandmaternal birthday. Vans from Fortnum & Mason arrived bearing bouquets. Her piper played in the gardens. Birthday cards and messages were delivered by the sackful, more than 3,000 of them in all. Last night she saw a performance of *Gyps and Dolls* at the National Theatre and today is due to leave London for a three-week holiday at her home in Caltham, the Castle of Mey.

One of the loyalist admirers outside Clarence House yesterday was Miss Muriel Joyne, aged 80, of Croydon, south London. She stood all day in the Mall to see the processions when the Queen Mother was married in 1923.



### Letter from Warsaw

## Artful dodgers in the thieves' kitchen across the Vistula

Warsaw is not the place for those who quiver at the very thought of Clapham (or Battersea or Wandsworth), who squeeze their eyes tight as they rattle in sealed carriages through the savage transpennine civilization of southern London en route to the imagined safety of Kew.

Warsaw, like other large cities, is divided by its river. The one side (my side) is a fortress of gentility: here I live quietly with the likes of General Jaruzelski, assorted intellectuals, Andrzej Wajda, a fair sprinkling of honest workers, Frimans of Poland. It is an orderly life. We would, had our other duties permitted, have cleaned our cars on Sunday.

The other side of the Vistula is known as Praga, the capital of Czechoslovakia (which goes by a similar name) but the capital of crime. When the General recently spoke of two Polands, the one decent and clean-living and the other symbolized by "an idle man, a profiteer, a bribe-taker who gets rich at other people's expense, an underground sewer of dirty deals" many of us thought about Praga, the part of Poland that martial law could not reach.

Praga is tough, as befits a place that survived a Cossack massacre after the eighteenth century uprising. Praga is also rough. It is dominated by a large open air market, the Bazar Rozycycki, which is comprised half of licensed traders and half of black market dealers.

Milling around the centre, men offer coffee - one of the pitiful black market goods at present - at four or five times the official price, women offer dresses and shoes, teenagers records and Western girls magazines.

Near one of the entrances dealers offer an arm's length of wrist watches. The goods are often East German, Bulgarian or Russian: this is one of the first stops for Soviet tourists after the regulation visits to war memorials.

They bring with them caviar or - the more ambitious - diamonds. These are traded for East German shoes or whatever is in short supply in the fatherland. This is the alternative common market where everything has fallen off the back of the Warsaw Pact lorry.

Not surprisingly the market becomes the focus of large-scale crime. Men drinking

illegally-sold beer stand around in King Fu-T shirts contriving the look of simultaneous relaxation and tension that distinguishes gangsters, plain clothes policemen and editors of the *Daily Express*.

Fringing the market is Brzeska Street. There used to be an illegal meat market in the courtyards of Brzeska but this seems to have been cleared up in a rare success for the police in the area.

But the street is still the place to look for a *melina*, an illegal vodka outlet. At two o'clock in the morning, long

leave the man to pursue his real interests: black market currency dealing, siphoning off petrol, passing on or respraying stolen cars, living on the margin.

Zloties are used to buy dollars illegally from tourists or anybody who gets sent foreign currency from western relatives. The dollars are then used to buy scarce goods either in the official hard currency shops or elsewhere. These goods are then sold for a huge markup in zloties.

Zloties build up, stored in the cupboards in Praga apart-



Fortress of gentility: Warsaw's Castle Square.

after every restaurant has shut, taxis can be seen crawling along Brzeska, stopping suddenly in front of a portal where vodka is on sale at several times the official price.

Praga was not destroyed by the Germans after the Warsaw uprising during the Second World War, as the Russians had already gained control of the eastern bank of the Vistula. The result is a network of courtyards that has changed little since the 1930s.

The corners of Praga smell of stale beer, the homes are catcombs with wooden floors, sanitation is suspect. On a summer morning, the men, bareheaded because of the heat, gather ground and make a game out of flipping a zloty from one end of a yard to another. Some women, bulging with fat, watch from the windows: but most are at work or shopping.

Despite a law designed to stamp out "work shirkers", the professional dodgers have few problems. Quite simply, a market has sprung up for fake work documents. For a consideration, a small private trader will claim that somebody is working for him and

ments, waiting for the main chance, will buy a clapped out Mercedes which can be resold at a profit in four months.

The papers recently reported a case that can stand as the perfect Praga liaison. During a party in Praga, one dealer stole a bundle of zloties from the host. The host found out, demanded the money back and the thief, evidently frightened, did as he was told.

A woman was involved: a woman who had only got married because she needed to be officially registered in Warsaw and now wanted to leave her husband of convenience. Apparently because he coveted the money, and to "teach the thief a lesson", the erstwhile host had his colleague murdered. End of story: in Praga, the only remarkable part of the incident was that the murderer was caught.

Meanwhile, over the other side of the river, General Jaruzelski, Cardinal Glemp and I try to sleep peacefully in our beds.

Roger Boyes

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

New exhibitions  
Egypt and the British, Gallery of Modern Art, Athenaeum, Princess Street, Manchester, Mon to Sat 10 to 6; (until Sept 17).  
Show Business Goes on Tour, Theatre Museum's performing arts; Mostyn Art Gallery, 12 Vaughan Street, Llandudno; Tues to Sun 11 to 6; closed Mon; (until Sept 10).

Last chance to see  
Paintings and drawings by Jack Knot, Fruitmarket Gallery, Market Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30; closed Sun (ends tomorrow).  
St Mary's Well, Jesmond Dene; acquisitions from the excavation of the seventeenth-century well and adjoining bath house; and Leather Shoes from Newcastle-upon-Tyne; comparing relics of shoes excavated from the Castle Ditch with those shown in portraits and paintings of the period; both exhibitions at 2.30pm.

Museum of Antiquities, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (both ends today).  
Pottery - eighteenth and nineteenth century, Ginnel Gallery, Lloyd's House, 16 Lloyd's Street, Manchester; Mon to Fri 9 to 5, closed Sat and Sun, Thurs 9 to 8; (ends today).  
Paul Nash Book Designs; Turner House, Plymouth Road, Penzance; Tues to Sat 11 to 12.45 and 2 to 5; Sun 2 to 5, closed Mon; (ends tomorrow).  
Design for Living; Carmarthen Museum, Aberystwyth, Carmarthen; Mon to Sat 10 to 4.30; (ends tomorrow).  
Naive painters; Halesworth Gallery, St. Peter's End, Halesworth, Suffolk; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 3 to 6; (ends today).  
By Trolleybus: 50th anniversary of Bournemouth Trolleybuses, Russell-Cotes Museum and Art Gallery, East Cliff, Bournemouth; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5.30; (ends tomorrow).

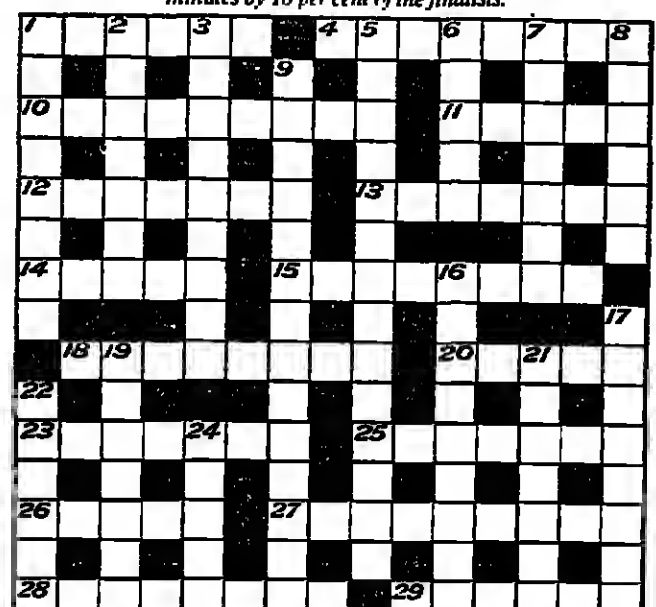
Music  
Concert by Ulster Orchestra, White Hall, Belfast, 7.45.  
Concert by Philip Jones Brass Ensemble, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, 8.  
Concert by National Youth Orchestra of Wales, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.  
Harp recital by Danielle Perrett, ma to foyer, Festival Hall, 12.30.  
Recital by Yuke Inoue (viola) and Ka Kai Tam (piano), St Lawrence Jewry, Gresham Street, EC2, 1.  
Piano recital by Rosemary Field, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Ludgate Hill, EC4, 1.15.  
Talks, lectures, films  
Persian, Turkish and Mughal Miniatures, 12, Indian Manuscripts, 2.30; both by Barbara Bred, British Library.  
Modern Sculpture (11) The Age of Pop, by Simon Wilson, Tate Gallery, 1.  
Lachis: A Ceneanite and Hebrew City, by Jonathan Tubb, 11.30; Houses and villas of Pompeii and Herculaneum by Patsy Yanaga, 1.15; both at British Museum.  
Rich Man Poor Man, a talk for children, 11.30, and Space on 15th Century Italian Painting, by Sarah Kelly, 1; both at National Gallery, (2.3-4.5).

Walks  
The Strand - Alleys and Hidden Places, meet Embankment Underground, 2 pm.  
Literary London, meet St Paul's Underground, 2.30 pm.  
Inns of Court, meet Holborn Underground, 11 am.  
Dickens' London, meet St Paul's Underground, 2 pm.  
Chaucer and Whittington's London, meet outside Museum of London, 2.30 pm.  
Roman London, meet Tower Hill Underground, 2.30 pm.  
An Historic Pub Walk, meet Backfairs Underground, 7.30 pm.

General  
Durham City Folk Festival, Dunein House, Durham City; today 8pm to 1 am, Sat 10am to midnight, Sun 10 to 5.30.  
The 11th Lowther Horse Driving Trials and Country Fair, Lowther Castle, nr Peartree, Cumbria, today until Sunday.  
Manchester Show, Plan Fields Park, Wilmslow Road, Manchester, 11 to 9 today (10 to 9 tomorrow, 11 to 7 Sun).

### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,200

This puzzle, used at the London A regional final of the Collins Dictionaries Times Crossword Championship, was solved within 30 minutes by 18 per cent of the finalists.



- ACROSS
- Provide inspiration for puzzle (6).
  - Victory for William Shakespeare's lord (8).
  - Solicitor working for "X" (9).
  - Mourning need - no money whatsoever returned (5).
  - Measure 5, perhaps (7).
  - Observantly spot man hiding there (7).
  - Foreign news-agency has nothing on poet (5).
  - Sheep in shelters would exclude ewe, we hear (8).
  - Individual holding runners up (8).
  - Work on ship about to take part in Hunting of the Snark (5).
  - One of the first makers of aprons (3-4).
  - Student team A, on inside and outside (7).
  - Bad temper of people Johnson considered fair (5).
  - Baker Street urchin not obeying rules (9).
  - Use number - note the increase (8).
  - Impudent striker, of course (6).
- DOWN
- Speak ill of Sheridan's character (8).
  - Good behaviour in police districts, some say (7).
- CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

### Bank

Australia \$	1.78	1.70
Austria Sch	29.05	27.59
Belgium Fr	87.50	78.50
Canada \$	1.99	1.82
Denmark Kr	14.80	14.10
Finland Mkk	8.55	8.45
France Fr	12.21	11.76
Germany DM	4.10	3.98
Greece Dr	136.90	127.00
Hongkong \$	11.50	10.85
Ireland P	1.50	1.24
Italy Lira	2445.00	2325.00
Japan Yen	381.00	361.00
Netherlands Gld	4.58	4.36
Norway Kr	11.53	10.96
Portugal Esc	185.00	175.00
South Africa Rd	2.00	1.85
Spain Ptas	227.50	216.50
Sweden Kr	12.12	11.52
Switzerland Fr	3.33	3.16
USA \$	1.53	1.48
Yugoslavia Dnr	154.00	144.00

### Food prices

Summer fruits are now past their best, and peaches make one of the best alternatives. The weather has been good in the Italian and French growing areas which send the fruit to Britain, and quality is high. Prices vary widely, and the 30p which may well buy only one fine peach from a shop may be enough for three slightly smaller ones from a market stall.

### Anniversaries

Births: Alexander William Kinglake, historian, Taunton, 1809; Edward John Eyre, explorer in Australia, Hornsea, Yorkshire, 1815; Guy de Maupassant, Dieppe, 1850.  
Deaths: Frederick North, 2nd Earl of Guilford, Prime Minister, 1770-82, London, 1792; Phil May, caricaturist, London, 1903.

### Top films

- Top box office films in London:
- Superman II
  - Return of the Jedi
  - Mighty Python's The Meaning of Life
  - Flashdance
  - Education Rita
  - Tootsie
  - Heat and Dust
  - Raiders of the Lost Ark
  - King of Comedy
- The top five in the provinces:
- Octopussy
  - Superman II
  - Heat and Dust
  - Return of the Jedi
  - Monty Python's The Meaning of Life
- Compiled by Screen International

### The pound

Bank	Bank	
Buy	Sell	
Australia \$	1.78	1.70
Austria Sch	29.05	27.59
Belgium Fr	87.50	78.50
Canada \$	1.99	1.82
Denmark Kr	14.80	14.10
Finland Mkk	8.55	8.45
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### Roads

London and South-east: M10: Closed northbound 8 pm until 6 am; diversions on A405 and M1.  
Westminster: Buckingham Palace Road closed overnight 9 pm to 7 am between Belgrave Street and Euston Street outside Victoria Station. A259: Delays on Brighton Road at Newhaven.  
Wales and West: A49/A465: Serious delays at Belmont Island, Hereford. A487: Temporary lights on Dolgellau to Machynlleth at Llywyl. A429: Temporary lights at Northcote.  
Midlands and East Anglia: A1: Lane closures at Colsterworth, Lincolnshire. M54: Lane closures on Telford by-pass diversion at Northcote. M45: Eastbound carriageway closed; diversion.  
North: A1/B134b: Roadworks on Alnwick bridge by-pass, Northumberland. A530: Roadworks on A166 at junction with Barony Road, Nantwich, Cheshire. A49: Southbound diversion on Forest Road, Tarporley, Cheshire.  
Scotland: M9: Lane closures between junction 5 (Palkies) to Kincairdie Bridge. M8: Roadworks at St James interchange, junction 29, Strathclyde.

### The papers

Kenya's biggest selling paper, The Nation, has criticized a decision by six southern African countries to ban foreign journalists based in South Africa saying it put Africa in a bad light abroad. "When African countries ban journalists they are only giving their critics more ammunition to accuse them of being despotic," the paper says. The Daily Mirror asks why there have been so many apparently misleading and conflicting official statements about Mrs Thatcher's eye trouble. The moral, they say, is that once you start telling lies, you can't complain if no one believes you when you start telling the truth.

### Bond winners

Winning numbers in the August monthly draw for Premium Bond prizes of £10,000: 7LS 525345 (the winner lives in Surrey); 6LZ 835477 (Governor); 1SW5 66957 (Rhodes); 15ZE 276072 (Kincardineshire); 2LZZ 447784 (Linarkshire).

### Pollen forecast

Area	Pollen count	Peak times
Aberdeen	high	8 to 10 pm
Belfast	high	8 to 10 pm
Birmingham	low	3 to 5 pm
Bristol	low	3 to 5 pm
Cardiff	low	3 to 5 pm
Edinburgh	low	noon to 3 pm
Exeter	low	noon to 3 pm
Gloucester	low	noon to 3 pm
Leeds	low	noon to 3 pm
London	low	noon to 3 pm
Manchester	low	noon to 3 pm
Newcastle	low	noon to 3 pm
Nottingham	low	noon to 3 pm
Sheffield	low	noon to 3 pm
Southampton	low	noon to 3 pm
Stirling	low	noon to 3 pm
Wolverhampton	low	noon to 3 pm
Worcester	low	noon to 3 pm
York	low	noon to 3 pm

### Weather forecast

An anticyclone will remain slow-moving near SW England, with a ridge extending over most of the British Isles.

### 6 am to midnight

London SE-E England, East Angles: Rather cloudy at first, sunny periods developing, wind NW, light to moderate; max temp 22 to 24°C (72 to 75°F).  
Central S, SW, NW, central N, NE England, Midlands, Channel Islands, Wales: Dry, sunny periods; wind NW, light; max temp 21 to 23°C (70 to 73°F).  
Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: Mainly dry, bright intervals developing; wind SW, moderate; max temp 18 to 19°C (64 to 66°F).  
Ireland, Gibraltar, Madeira, Azores: Mainly dry, sunny intervals; wind W, max temp 21 to 22°C (70 to 72°F).  
Central Highlands, Hebray Firth, NE Scotland: Mainly dry, sunny intervals; wind NW, light, occasional rain or drizzle; wind SW, moderate; max temp 15 to 17°C (59 to 63°F).  
Outlook for the weekend: Mainly dry with sunny periods, warm generally.

### SEA PASSAGES

SE North Sea: Wind NW, moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate.  
SW North Sea: Wind NW, moderate; sea smooth or slight.  
SE English Channel: Wind W, light; sea smooth.

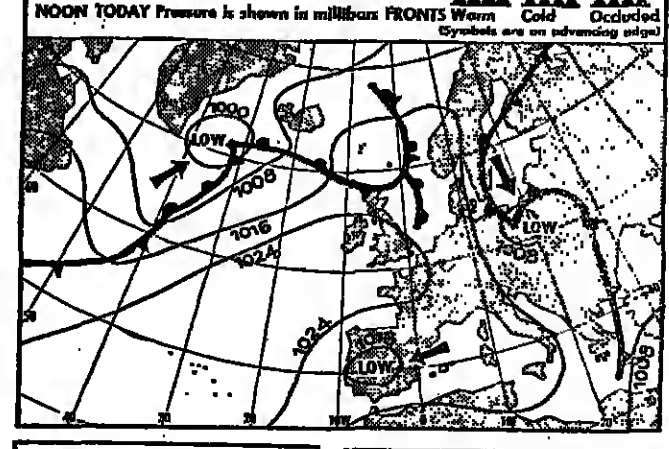
### Lighting-up time

London 8.13 pm to 8.51 am  
Belfast 8.22 pm to 8.11 am  
Birmingham 8.20 pm to 8.09 am  
Manchester 8.20 pm to 8.02 am  
Preston 8.30 pm to 8.27 am

### Yesterday

Area	C	F	Humidity
Belfast	10	50	78
Birmingham	17	63	78
Bristol	17	63	78
Cardiff	17	63	78
Edinburgh	17	63	78
Exeter	17	63	78
Gloucester	17	63	78
Leeds	17	63	78
London	17	63	78
Manchester	17	63	78
Newcastle	17	63	78
Nottingham	17	63	78
Sheffield	17	63	78
Southampton	17	63	78
Stirling	17	63	78
Wolverhampton	17	63	78
Worcester	17	63	78
York	17	63	78

### Weather forecast



### High tides

Location	AM	HT	MT	NT
London Bridge	11.07	11.31	11.51	12.09
Aberdeen	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Aberystwyth	11.12	11.36	11.56	12.13
Belfast	11.07	11.31	11.51	12.09
Birmingham	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Bristol	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Cardiff	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Edinburgh	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Exeter	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Gloucester	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Leeds	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
London	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Manchester	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Newcastle	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Nottingham	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Sheffield	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Southampton	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Stirling	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Wolverhampton	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
Worcester	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10
York	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10

### Around Britain

Area	Sun	Fair	Max	Min	Wind
London	11.13	11.31	11.51	12.09	10
Belfast	11.07	11.31	11.51	12.09	10
Birmingham	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10	10
Bristol	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10	10
Cardiff	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10	10
Edinburgh	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10	10
Exeter	10.48	10.73	10.93	11.10	10
Gloucester	10.48				